FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 JANUARY 1987

Libyan, French Raids in Chad

JANA denied that Libyan MiG's raided Kouba Olanga 7 January, stating that French reports on the raid are "lies and fabrications" which are part of a campaign of "misrepresentation and disinformation." Paris radio had announced that MiG's bombed the Chadian Government post at Kouba Olanga, south of the 16th parallel, and a Chadian military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio said the raid by MiG-23's was aimed at villages in the area.

The reported Libyan raid followed a French air attack on a Libyan air base in northern Chad earlier in the day. French aircraft based in Chad and the CAR strafed radar installations at Ouadi Doum in order to prevent Libyan aircraft from using the airstrip, AFP disclosed. The French defense minister commented on the raid in an interview with Paris radio, stating that France's "precise and significant riposte" is not an escalation of the conflict but shows that "we will not allow ourselves to be pushed around." In the wake of the French action, JANA reported that Libya informed the Soviet Union of the "seriousness" of the situation in Chad.

Iran-Iraq War

Iran can produce and use chemical weapons, and it has a right to resort to "any available means" to retaliate for Iraq's use of chemical weapons, Iranian War Information Headquarters (WIH) chief Kamal Kharrazi stated at a press conference reported by IRNA. He said Iran has already manufactured a type of chemical weapon which Iraq has been unable to produce in its laboratories.

Regarding the situation in the Gulf, Kharrazi denied that Iran was responsible for a recent attack on a Japanese cargo ship and he said the accusation against Iran is aimed at marring "friendly" relations between Tehran and Tokyo. The WIH chief said he knows nothing about the identity of those responsible for the attack on the Japanese ship and for the firing of a missile at a U.S. helicopter in the Gulf. In another Gulf development, Manama shipping sources cited by AFP disclosed that a Hong Kong tanker was hit by a missile launched by an unidentified vessel off the UAE coast early 7 January.

In Iraq, the chief of staff briefed visiting Jordanian King Husayn on the recent "glorious victories" won by the VII and III Army Corps, Baghdad radio reported, noting that Husayn's talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn covered "brotherly" bilateral relations and the Arab situation. Saddam Husayn had earlier announced that if Iran persists in shelling Basra, Iraq will respond by destroying Iranian cities, according to INA. An Iranian WIH spokesman cited by IRNA accused the Iraqi leader of seeking a pretext to resume attacks on Iranian cities.

Egyptian Paper on Tabah

An 8 January *Al-Akhbar* editorial cited by MENA denounced Israel's "fraudulent" policy on Tabah, affirming that Israel is seeking to stir up controversy and tension by refusing to withdraw the IDF from Tabah in the wake of the Multinational Force's deployment in the area. The arbitral compromis clearly provides for the termination of Israel's military presence in Tabah, *Al-Akhbar* maintained.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio announced that 5 people were killed and over 10 were injured when areas in East Beirut were subjected to "barbaric" shelling from artillery in southern Beirut 8 January. The shelling followed an artillery attack on Beirut International Airport in which a Middle East Airlines Boeing 727 was destroyed, according to Beirut radio, which cited reports that the bombardment emanated from East Beirut. However, a Lebanese Forces statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon denied that artillery positions in the Christian sector were responsible for shelling the airport.

In the south, two South Lebanese Army (SLA) soldiers were killed in a 7 January attack on an SLA post south of Jazzin, Jerusalem radio reported. Amal announced that its "mujahidin" were responsible for the operation, Beirut radio noted.

Afghanistan

Shevardnadze, Dobrynin Visit — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze termed his 5-7 January visit to Kabul "very useful, meaningful and constructive," according to a 7 January BAKHTAR interview carried by TASS. Shevardnadze, who was accompanied on the working visit by CPSU Central Committee Secretary Anatoliy Dobrynin, said Soviet-Afghan relations have assumed "completely different parameters" and require "new" and "innovative" approaches. Shevardnadze said a political settlement in the region is "a present reality" and includes "the question of withdrawing Soviet troops." However, he warned that a political settlement also depends on a guaranteed cessation of "intervention from without." A timetable for a Soviet troop withdrawal will be set within the framework of the settlement, an 8 January BAKHTAR report noted. The report said both the Soviet Union and Afghanistan hope that "all forces involved in the struggle in Afghanistan" will approach the DRA's cease-fire proposals "seriously and realistically."

Rebel Group's Surrender — The government's national reconciliation policy prompted a 1,000-strong rebel group in Herat Province to cease hostilities, Kabul radio reported 7 January.

Soviet Policy on Middle East

The Soviet Union has expressed "special satisfaction" at the UN General Assembly's endorsement of a resolution for an international peace conference on the Middle East and the creation of a preparatory committee at the Security Council, according to a 7 January USSR Foreign Ministry statement carried by TASS.

The statement said it is "essential" to convene the conference "without delay," but added the Soviet Union is "far from pressing for any rigid, pre-fixed timetable" for preparatory work. In order to achieve peace, Middle East nations will have to display readiness to adopt "a new mode of political thinking," the Foreign Ministry statement noted.

'Arafat Rejects Jordan's West Bank Program

JN071706 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has announced his rejection of the Jordanian development program for Palestinians in the territories occupied by the Zionist enemy. He said the United States and Israel will exploit this program to impose a fait accompli on relations between Jordan and the Zionist enemy. In a statement to *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, brother leader Abu 'Ammar urged Arab states not to support the program, affirming implementation of the program means accepting the continuation of Zionist occupation for at least another 5 years.

Fatah Official on Relations With Egypt, Jordan

PM071149 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 26 Dec 86 pp 29-31

[Interview with Rafiq al-Natshah, Fatah Central Committee Member and representative in Riyadh, by Sultan 'Abdallah; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] ['Abdallah] Was the communique on the Waiting Wall operation announced from Cairo after coordination or consultation with the Egyptian Government?

[Al-Natshah] Throughout the history of our armed struggle against the Israeli occupation of Palestinian soil I am not aware of an Arab regime or an Arab official asking us to consult him before issuing a communique on an operation against the Zionist aggression. If there are special circumstances that have created sensitivity as a result of the announcement of the communique on the operation from Cairo, then I can stress that it was not our intention or our purpose to create a problem for the Egyptian Government.

['Abdallah] Don't you think that this announcement could affect Egyptian-Palestinian relations?

[Al-Natshah] We are confident that the Egyptian officials understand the motives behind the announcement of the communique from Cairo, as it was announced from other places. I can confirm that the announcement of the operation from Cairo has not affected and will not affect Egyptian-Palestinian relations, God willing. [passage omitted]

['Abdallah] The Wailing Wall operation coincided with Yitzhak Shamir's assumption of the Israeli premiership. Does the operation mean that the PLO has leaned toward the military option more strongly than before?

[Al-Natshah] I wish to stress, or rather point out, that the Palestinian revolution's and PLO's raison d'etre is that throughout the Palestinian issue's history in international and regional quarters all the political endeavors and political proposals made to give the Palestinian people their rights have failed, thus compelling the Palestinian people to choose armed struggle as the sole path for the liberation of Palestine, considering that all the other paths have been blocked for them. [passage omitted]

['Abdallah] If we are talking of the military option, it is certain that the PLO has made the required preparations, which include, for example, the training of pilots. Can these pilots contribute to a battle by confronting the latest U.S. aircraft?

[Al-Natshah] Let us first say that the PLO's military basis or fundamental line is the military line, not the military option. Let us then explain what is meant by the military option. It does not mean just the amassing of regular armies and of more aircraft and tanks. This amassing is certainly important at a certain phase. But it is not the task of the Palestinian revolution, which relies primarily on God and then on its masses and arms, to carry out its popular revolutionary operations in the occupied territories while waiting for the people concerned with the Arab regular armies to move to the position which enables them to wage the liberation battle. To us, the armed struggle means preparing the Palestinian fighter at the popular and organizational level to operate under all circumstances. If we get the chance to use aircraft, we have Palestinian pilots and we can develop their capabilities to make them compatible with any aircraft that we may acquire. But our fundamental function and task is to prepare the Palestinian citizen culturally, spiritually, and militarily in a way that befits the nature of the battle we are now waging inside the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

['Abdallah] You have said in the course of your answers that the PLO has pilots prepared to fly aircraft that may be acquired. What type of aircraft are they and does the PLO possess aircraft?

[Al-Natshah] We have no airfields to enable us to have aircraft. However, we do have pilots who work with some Arab air forces and who fly the aircraft these air forces possess. Of course, there are numerous Palestinian pilots in most of the Arab air forces, if not all of them. But for the PLO to have its own pilots it needs to have its own airfields so it can acquire aircraft to be flown by its own pilots.

['Abdallah] Do you have pilots who fly or who can fly U.S.-madeaircraft?

[Al-Natshah] We have pilots who can fly the latest U.S.-made transport aircraft. As for other aircraft, such as Phantoms and other types, our sons have not had the opportunity to train on them. Should they get the chance, they will be able to fly them and to excel, as usual. [passage omitted]

['Abdallah] How does the PLO view the Bucharest meeting, which included Palestinian and Israeli notables?

[Al-Natshah] As you know, Israeli society consists of more than 100 groups speaking more than 80 languages. In this mosaic-like and contradictory society we find that there is struggle between the classes, struggle between the various factions, struggle between the blacks and the whites, struggle between the eastern Jews and the western Jews, and struggle between the African Jews, who are not acknowledged yet, and others. With this struggle in Israeli society we find that there are groups that recognize the Palestinian people's rights and the PLO. These groups declare their position openly in Israeli society. We wel-

come any support we get from any faction or any individual in this society.

A law was issued by the Knesset and by this government, which claims to be democratic, banning any Israeli from holding contacts with the PLO. Anybody who contravenes this law is tried and given a 4-year prison term. Some groups have sought to challenge this strange and surprising law, issued by a government claiming to be democratic. We welcome any group in the world expressing support for our rights and our cause.

['Abdallah] What is the size of this group, which aspires for peace, in Israeli society?

[Al-Natshah] There is no doubt that its size is not big and that its influence is weak because power is in the hands of the groups directly influenced by the U.S. Administration. [passage omitted] The influence on the U.S. Administration of the group supporting our rights is still weak. But we hope that the number of our people's supporters will increase in every part of the world.

['Abdallah] So what use is the dialogue?

[Al-Natshah] The benefit of the dialogue is that we gain more supporters, with the contradiction in Israeli society thus intensifying and with the supporters discovering how false is the democracy of this government which claims to be democratic. The West alleges that this democracy is the main reason for its support for this entity, which claims that all the Arab states are undemocratic. We enlist the help of the capabilities of any group in Asia or Africa. Something which is a small force now may become a major force in the future. We wage our political struggle on all fronts and in all societies and we do not slight any support, whatever its dimensions.

['Abdallah] Does the PLO have a certain strategy toward Africa?

[Al-Natshah] We do not claim that we have a strategy distinguished from the Arab strategy. We are part of the Arab nation and our strategy is part of this nation's strategy. But at the popular level, we may be more effective than others from Nazi Israeli society and Nazi Israeli administration. Israel is tied to South Africa by the same Nazi approach. Consequently, we interact more strongly than others with Africa's peoples. By moving in Africa in the light of our strategy, we can offer a lot. But material reasons prevent us from offering what other quarters can offer. [passage omitted] We can provide engineers, physicians, and experts. But very regrettably, the resources that make it possible to offer more and not available to us or to the African countries themselves. Technically, we can meet all of Africa's needs for skilled elements. But the Africans' material capabilities do not permit it.

['Abdallah] It is noticed that some African countries have resumed their diplomatic relations with Israel and that others are considering this step. How do you view this?

[Al-Natshah] There is no doubt that Israel, the ally of South Africa which is an expansionist racist state, is not qualified to enter Africa in this manner. It is my opinion that the Arab nation, the Arab governments, and the PLO are more qualified to do so. But they need sound scientific planning and resources in order that we may achieve greater objectives than our Israeli enemy.

['Abdallah] With respect to reconciliation with Syria, there are, in the light of the statements made, those who repeatedly say that the Palestinian side is willing. The Syrian side also says that it is prepared to hold dialogue with the PLO, without Yasir 'Arafat. What point have the reconciliation efforts reached?

[Al-Natshah] I will not conceal from you that the doors are still shut. We have tried in all directions and we have asked the brothers capable of influencing matters to intervene in order to restore normal conditions. I stress in this regard the endeavors of the Saudi Government, led by King Fahd, the custodian of the two holy mosques, and the repeated visits made by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. But very regrettably, we have not been able to get any response from the Syrian Government.

['Abdallah] In your capacity as a PLO Central Committee member, what is your opinion of the statement Zayd al-Rifa'i recently made to the effect that the bases of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement continue to exist whereas King Husayn said the opposite in his well-known speech?

[Al-Natshah] His Majesty King Husayn announced the abolition of the coordination with the PLO. This is the truth. Consequently, the political basis for coordination was also abolished. I believe that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is embalmed and lifeless because the Palestinian leadership has rejected it. Consequently, the agreement in accordance with which the Palestinian leadership coordinates with Jordan has also become rejected. Therefore, there is no place for talking about a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement which is accepted on paper and rejected by the leadership. I call for distinctive Palestinian-Jordanian relations founded on sound bases and seriously taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the PNC and the Palestinian people's rights. I also urge that sincerity and the ability to implement what is agreed upon be the basis for cooperation. I don't imagine that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is more than ink on paper or that it will be implemented, considering that relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian leaderships have been suspended since the speech by His Majesty King Husayn.

['Abdallah] What about Egyptian efforts to move Jordan and the PLO closer to each other?

[Al-Natshah] We are undoubtedly thankful for and appreciate what President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian Government have done to build bridges of understanding between the Jordanian Government and the PLO. We also note the efforts made by King Fahd in this direction. But regrettably the brothers and friends have not been able to restore normal conditions with the Jordanian leadership. We regret this extremely because we call for distinctive relations with Jordan. Even though the coordination has been suspended, I cannot say that matters have deteriorated to an irreparable point. On the contrary, the PLO offices in Amman continue to exist. We had a number of offices but some of them were closed. In any case, there is no objection to aspiring for distinguished Jordanian-Palestinian relations

founded on mutual respect and on the basis of our resolutions and strategy, not on the basis of ceding our rights in return for promises with no root in the real world. All must understand unequivocally that we are not prepared to recognize resolution 242 because it does not provide for the Palestinian people's legal and legitimate rights. Whoever wishes to program his relationship with the PLO on the basis of our recognizing Resolution 242 must learn in advance that we will not recognize this resolution and that he will have to deal with us accordingly.

['Abdallah] Don't you think that your relations with Egypt are in conflict with your position on Camp David?

[Al-Natshah] We are committed to the PNC resolutions. We have clearly denounced and continue to denounce the Camp David accord. We do not recognize Camp David and we believe that it has squandered the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. The Egyptian people's position on Camp David is well known. We are aware of this, and our policy and our strategy are well known. We have agreed to cooperation for the sake of the Palestinian people and Palestinian homeland. In light of these facts, we will not go to Egypt to fool the Egyptian officials and we have not gone to Egypt to be fooled by the Egyptian officials. We appreciate the Egyptian people's and Egyptian Government's position and we hope to develop with them in the future a common political line based on our initiative and strategy, not on the Camp David accord. [passage omitted]

['Abdallah] How do you view the [Saudi] Kingdom's continued support for the PLO?

[Al-Natshah] The sums the kingdom pays the PLO are well known and publicized, not a secret. It is our duty and our policy to thank the countries that help us and to doubly thank the countries that support us. What is important is that the countries that do not aid us refrain from harming us, and we will thank them for it. However, we hope that they will continue to fulfill their obligations toward the PLO. If some people have any reason not to aid the PLO, then we urge them to directly aid our people in the occupied territories through the universities, hospitals, and social organizations. We thank all the Arab countries that have supported the PLO. We are thankful for all aid, noting in particular the aid we have received from the Gulf states in our long years of struggle. While expressing my thanks, I especially thank the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia because of its distinguished position in supporting the PLO and the Palestinian revolution. It is the only country that has not defaulted on its obligations since it undertook them. We hope that all countries will continue this aid and hope that the countries that have stopped paying the aid will resume paying it.

Al-Hasan: Kuwait 'Most Suitable Venue' for Summit

LD071728 Kuwait KUNA in English 1559 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 7 (KUNA) — A prominent Palestinian official declared here Wednesday that the Palestine Liberation Organization is with the holding of the fifth Islamic Summit Conference in Kuwait and on its scheduled date of January 26. Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, said in a statement that convening the summit in Kuwait will provide the best conditions for the conference "because Kuwait is the most suitable venue for holding the summit."

He added that it is a pleasure for the Palestinians that the big conference will be held under the auspices of his highness the Amir of Kuwait, and that his highness will become the president of the Islamic Conference for the forthcoming stage. He stressed that "Our pleasure stems from the fact that we are going to witness the presidency of the amir who is a statesman known for his determination, integrity and ability to make political events and political equilibrium, therefore the atmosphere for Arab solidarity under the auspices of his highness should be created."

He emphasized that this necessitates that all parties should support Kuwait in realizing that objective and hoped that all Arab leaders would attend the conference so that they would discuss all pending issues in an open spirit. Al-Hasan expressed confidence that the PLO chairman will do his best before and during the conference "with the aim of extricating the Arab nation from the current disastrous situation it is experiencing so that the Islamic summit be [as received] a starting point for the Riyadh Arab summit in order to unite the Arabs in face of Israel and the United States."

On the Palestinian paper that will be presented to the conference, Al-Hasan said a special committee was formed following the PLO's Executive Committee meetings in Baghdad recently to work out that paper, which he said will focus on various aspects of the Palestinian cause and the Iraq-Iran war.

The Palestinian official called on Iran to attend the summit "without a new offensive," and said "we are all concerned with finding a honorable settlement to the Iraq-Iran war in which there is not one victorious or vanquished." He referred to a recent meeting between Iraq President Saddam Husayn and 'Arafat in which the Iraqi president has expressed keenness on bringing that conflict to an end in a bid to solving it and not settling accounts.

The Palestinian official expressed hope that Iran will not launch its new offensive, which he said has been decided to begin this January 15 in the central sector and said "the Iraqi Army is more capable to destroy the armored force that Iran has amassed to the south of Dehloran that destroying an offensive that depends on human power, as happened in the Al-Faw area."

According to the information of the PLO, Al-Hasan said, more than 130,000 Iranians were killed during the latest Iranian offensive and more than 30,000 were injured in addition to the thousands of those captured or still missing.

Answering a question on the Arab efforts for ending the camps war in Lebanon, Al-Hasan said the PLO supports the efforts and mission of the seven-man committee and the Saudi efforts in particular "which paved the way for success of the committee."

He hoped that the committee will succeed during its meetings with the Syrian leaders in implementing the practical plan for ceasefire and to ensure the safety and security of the camps and introducing deterring measures against Lebanese Amal movement, which he said is still kidnapping unarmed Palestinians and killing them outside the camps.

He pointed out that the success of the Arab committee will create positive atmosphere at the Islamic conference, and paving the way for clearing the Arab atmosphere. The Palestinian official lauded the support of Saudi Arabia to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian action and said the Saudi Kingdom has paid yesterday nine million dollar as the first installment in its contribution to the budget of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee.

He described that step as very laudable "because our people under occupation are in bad need for such support." He also said that the payment was also of big political significance since it indicates adherence to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian action in the occupied territories. He pointed out that the step is regarded as "a rejection to the policy of unilateral development plans."

'Corrective Movement' Forms News Agency in Amman
JN071824 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The birth of a Palestinian information agency rivaling the *Palestinian News Agency* WAFA was announced in Amman. The new agency is called AL-BURAQ. In its first news bulletin, AL-BURAQ said it would give detailed information about the activities of the corrective movement. The corrective movement is led by Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah], former official in charge of the Fatah Movement's intelligence service. He and some Palestinian officers broke away from Yasir 'Arafat's leadership following King Husayn's suspension of the Amman agreement between Jordan and the PLO.

'Arafat Receives Cable From Afghan President
JN070805 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday received a congratulatory cable from Najibullah, Afghan president and secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, on the 22d anniversary of the establishment of the Palestinian revolution. The cable says: On behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party in Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council, and the people and government of the Republic of Afghanistan we are pleased to express our heartfelt congratulations to you and the fraternal Palestinian people on the 22d anniversary of the armed revolution of the heroic Palestinian people.

President Najibullah strongly condemned the imperialist- Zionist plots against Palestinian people and their just struggle, stressing that these plots aim to entrench the illegal Zionist occupation of the Palestinian land. He added: We would like to reiterate that the Afghan people and government will continue to support the Palestinian people's just cause to regain their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. We are confident that the Palestine question can best be solved within the framework of an international conference to be attended by the PLO on equal footing with the other concerned parties.

'Abdallah: 'No Obstacles' To Islamic Summit

LD071206 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the current GCC Ministerial Council session, announced that all GCC member-states are committed to the date and venue of the Islamic summit conference to be held in Kuwait on 26 January. He stressed that there are no obstacles preventing the convocation of the summit conference. Rashid 'Abdallah, who was speaking at a news conference in Riyadh at noon today at the conclusion of the Ministerial Council meeting, expressed hope that all Islamic states will attend the conference, and said that thus far no Islamic state has said it would not attend.

Asked whether there is a new initiative to solve the Iraq-Iran conflict, he said that the GCC member-states have endeavored, are still endeavoring, and will continue to endeavor to stop the war. He pointed out that efforts are still being made by GCC member-states, the Islamic States, and the United Nations.

Regarding the Palestinian camps war, Rashid 'Abdallah said that the GCC member-states, represented by the committee entrusted with the issue of the Palestinian camps war in Lebanon, are striving, with the cooperation of their sister Arab states, to halt that war.

Their highnesses and excellencies the foreign ministers of the GCC member-states departed Riyadh this afternoon after participating in the emergency GCC Ministerial Council meeting which ended earlier today. They were seen off at King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bishara; Isa al-Nuwaysir chief of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry; and the ambassadors of the GCC member-states to the Kingdom.

GCC Oil Ministers To Hold Extraordinary Meeting

LD080955 Kuwait KUNA in English 0802 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 8 (KUNA) — Oil ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council states will hold an extraordinary meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia next Saturday. Official oil sources told KUNA today that the convention of the meeting was decided following intensive consultations held over the telephone between the GCC ministers during the past two days, aiming at unifying the oil policies between the six GCC states under the current oil situation.

The GCC groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. The sources said that the GCC oil ministers decided to hold their one day extraordinary meeting to discuss several urgent oil problems that concern their countries. Until now there is no official information from the concerned parties of the six-member countries on these particular issues of discussion.

The sources noted that this extraordinary meeting will not be substitute to the meetings of the GCC oil ministers, scheduled to be held on February 8 in Abu Dhabi, to tackle various oil topics and fields of oil manufacturing, marketing and production in the GCC states.

Missile Hits Hong Kong Tanker in Southern Gulf

NC080900 Paris AFP in English 0829 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Manama, Jan 8 (AFP) — A Hong Kong tanker, the *World Dawn*, was hit at dawn Wednesday by a missile launched by an unidentified vessel in the southern Gulf, independent shipping sources said here.

The sources said the missile scored a direct hit on the 88,000-tonne vessel but failed to explode. No crew members were hurt.

The attack occurred around 0120 GMT off Ra's al-Khaymah, part of the United Arab Emirates, the sources said.

BAHRAIN

Amir Discusses ICO Summit With Iran's Lavasani

NC071301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the director general of our country's Foreign Ministry met with the amir of Bahrain in Manama this morning, and explained Iran's position on the ICO summit. The report points out that the amir expressed his satisfaction with the Iranian delegation's visit. He also stressed that Iran's stance and reasoning contain some significant points worthy of consideration.

Amir Receives Khamene'i Message

JN070947 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from Iranian President 'Ali Kha.nene'i. The message deals with bilateral relations and current developments in the region. This came when his highness the Bahraini amir received Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director general of political affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, who is currently visiting Manama within the framework of a tour of the region. Attending the meeting were Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah and ['Abbas Shakkori], the Iranian charge d'affaires to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister on GCC Talks, ICO Summit

LD071412 Kuwait KUNA in English 1204 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 7 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir returned home Wednesday from Riyadh after heading Kuwaiti delegation to extraordinary meetings of the GCC Ministerial Council that

concluded there earlier today.

Shaykh Sabah announced on arrival that the Ministerial Council discussed in its 9th extraordinary session developments in the Gulf region and issues to be tabled with the fifth Islamic summit conference due to convene in Kuwait.

He added that the council affirmed, during the deliberations, on the utmost importance of holding the conference in its venue, in Kuwait and on the fixed date, on Jan 26.

The Gulf Cooperation Council foreign ministers expressed hopes that all Islamic countries will take part in the conference and at the highest level, he underlined.

The deputy premier and foreign minister asserted that brothers in the GCC states will hold wide-ranging contacts to ensure success of the conference in a way achieving interests, boosting solidarity and strengthening cohesion of the Islamic countries.

Shaykh Sabah said "we, for our part, explained to the GCC members, Kuwait's preparations for the Islamic summit to provide all necessary factors for its success."

The chief diplomat said he pointed to the brothers that Kuwait was looking forward to the major Islamic gathering and praying to God that "leaders of the Islamic nation would agree on steps for bolstering march of our Islamic march [as received] and attain our peoples' aspirations to peace, stability and welfare.

Shaykh Sabah was received on his return here by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Director of the Protocol Department Ahmad 'Abd al-Wahid al-Ayub, Director of the Undersecretary's Office Department Ahmad al-Fahd and a number of senior ministry officials.

OMAN

Sultan Qabus Discusses Upcoming Islamic Summit

JN071624 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has given an important and comprehensive interview to the Saudi newspaper *Al-Biled* today. In the interview, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id talked about a number of issues regarding the Arab and Gulf arenas. At the beginning of the interview, Sultan Qabus opined on the current Arab situation and developments in the Arab arena. He also expressed regret over events in the Arab arena and prayed to Almighty God to remove the clouds over the Arab world and to change the Arab state of affairs into one where amity and clarity of vision prevail in dealings among brothers. His majesty urged Arabs to put their differences aside and to take an interest in what brings them benefits. He added: This cannot be brought about unless mutual trust among Arabs is created, because lack of trust is what has created this unsound Arab state of affairs. His majesty added: The Arab peoples form one entity and share common aspirations and ambitions, but there is a problem of trust among some Arab states.

When asked if the dangers surrounding the Arab world might restore trust among Arab states, Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id said: This is what should happen. He added that some parties are not yet sufficiently aware. On reports concerning polarization in the Arab world, his majesty said: The Arab world is only suffering from past misunderstandings and influences regarding cultural matters and political views. These misunderstandings can be attributed to local, economic, or military motives. When some Arab rulers look negatively upon others, personality conflicts arise which influence the state of affairs of the Arab world.

On the Palestine question, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id said: The Sultanate believes the Palestinian people must be allowed to regain their rights, foremost of which is their right to national self-determination. The Sultanate, he added, supports any peaceful initiative for this objective and believes peaceful means are better than warlike means as these create negative effects in Europe, America, and Eastern and Western countries.

His majesty added: The world does not view the Arab struggle as a struggle, but rather as a form of terrorism, despite the fact that our struggle is genuine. He added: If we Arabs pursue methods more acceptable to international public opinion and distance ourselves from militant practices, our means would be peaceful. This, he added, undoubtedly would ultimately lead to a realization of Palestinian rights and the advantages which we hope the Palestinians will be able to achieve.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id added: The Sultanate supports the view that the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples need to work together to find a sound solution to this crisis with the help of Arab governments and peoples who are directly involved in the issue. His majesty added: We must not allow ourselves to give the other side any excuse which it may use to gain time and occupy more land. This, he added, would cause the issue to disintegrate and then only God knows what this would bring.

Answering a question on the call for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id said: Undoubtedly an international conference is a good way for the world to speak its mind. His majesty, may God grant him long life, hoped such a conference would yield positive results. He said this with the stipulation that the conferees be fully prepared and that the elements necessary for success be made available.

His majesty also urged the fraternal Palestinians to unify their ranks to achieve their objectives, setting aside differences and working in a common direction. His majesty added: The Arab world knows that the Arab countries directly involved in the Palestine question are bearing a heavy burden. The pursuit of a just solution of the Palestine question is in the U.S. interest as it has a variety of interests in the Arab world. If this crisis is resolved, his majesty added, perhaps its interests would be more secure than they would be if this [Palestinian] question remained frozen.

His majesty expressed the belief that serious action by the United States on the Palestine question would be in its own interest. He added: We have no doubt the United States wants to resolve this question because this would secure its own interests. His

majesty, may God grant him long life, emphasized that the ideal way for the United States to solve the Palestinian question would be achieved if it deeply studies the question with the owners of the cause and the concerned parties. We believe this step will succeed and achieve desirable results.

His majesty added: The United States has binding strategic interests with Israel, but there are also many great ties with the Arab world. Hence, the United States must not be biased. A balanced policy would be in its interests.

Answering a question on Arab differences and their effect on the ICO summit to be held in Kuwait this month, his majesty said: I believe any conference must be comprehensively and studiuously prepared. I also think that the summit, if held, must yield positive results which can be the basis of good things. The date and venue of any conference can be fixed after the necessary preparations are made. His majesty, may God grant him long life, added: Any Islamic conference will achieve good ends for the Islamic world at large. Undoubtedly, the Arab world is a part of the Islamic world and, therefore, it would benefit from the good effects of any such conference. But there are certain positions adopted by Islamic or Arab states which must be seriously considered so that all issues and factors can be evaluated and our interests can be analyzed. Are continued efforts to convoke an ICO conference in our interest, or should we adopt a policy to wait for a more opportune time?

His majesty added: Therefore, the ICO summit and any other conferences must not be demonstrations. Rather, they must be conferences for action which produce good results, albeit modest ones.

His majesty expressed the belief that the Kuwaiti brothers have the wisdom and the reasoning to assess the situation and the circumstances. If they believe that continuing efforts to hold a conference is in the interest [of the Islamic world], this would, undoubtedly, be a good thing. And if they believe they do not have to be hasty in holding a summit, this would also be a sound view because they would have assessed the issue soundly in both cases and come up with clear results. His majesty asked Almighty God to remove all obstacles.

On the Saudi view which stipulates that the success of any forthcoming Arab summit be guaranteed, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id said: The Sultanate supports the Saudi view because there is no need to hold any conference which will not end on a positive note and which has not been prepared. On the Sultanate's policy in the Arab arena, his majesty said: Undoubtedly, each state has its own view, provided these views do not contravene the Arab peoples' supreme interests. Out of this conviction, each state has its own view and its own rules which govern its stand on the issues, variables, and the attendant circumstances.

His majesty added: Our strategy is based on frankness and in all our dealings we choose not to beat around the bush and to be frank, despite the fact that this openness creates some difficulties for us. His majesty, may God grant him long life, said: Man must be sincere in what he says and does. This does not mean that other Arab states or other brothers lack sincerity, but the issue is that we sometimes go beyond traditional diplomatic limits and express our views frankly. This practice can perhaps be attributed to our situation and past experience.

On his own view of the GCC's course, his majesty said: Praise be to God because the march of cooperation is progressing steadily. As one of the leaders of this march, I am satisfied with it and believe the accomplishments achieved must be entrenched and expanded. His majesty expressed the belief that this policy is the road which the GCC has been pursuing to strengthen and deepen the instruments of the success of this march and to anticipate the future with insight and vision because arbitrary uses of GCC instruments may sometimes have negative results. His majesty added: When we take one step forward, we should try to take another step forward instead of taking a step backward. His majesty emphasized his satisfaction with the process of decisionmaking which is not hasty. He added: Decisions on any matter must be based on conviction and must be realistic in terms of capabilities and potentials.

His majesty expressed regret over the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war. Ending this war, he added, will take a miracle because it has reached a point where man sees no ray of hope to free him. All initiatives and all efforts made thus far seem to be fruitless. His majesty added: Great hope is vested in God who changes others while remaining invulnerable to change. Who knows, this war may end and security may prevail in the region.

Concluding, his majesty emphasized that Omani-Saudi relations are fraternal and excellent and are like relations among members of the same family, adding that there are no shortcomings or obstacles hindering their development. He said: Words are incapable of expressing my feelings about these relations. His majesty expressed the hope that Omani-Saudi relations will always remain excellent.

The Saudi newspaper *Al-Bilad* published an introduction to the interview saying His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id is a statesman and a leader who thinks, plans, and works for Oman and the Arab and Islamic world.

Qabus: Arabs 'Satisfied' With Mubarak Policies

NC071303 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman has stressed that the problem that has strained Egyptian-Arab relations for a long time is over. He said that he had sensed this during all his meetings with Arab leaders. In a statement to the weekly magazine *Al-Musawwar*, to be published in its Friday issue, Sultan Qabus said that there might be certain formal impediments to the final step of restoring diplomatic relations, such as who will make the first move, who will take the initiative, or which country wants to resume relations. He expressed his belief that there are no real problems over the resumption of relations.

Sultan Qabus asserted that all Arabs now feel satisfied with President Husni Mubarak's political choices, particularly those concerning Arab issues. He said that President Mubarak behaved sensibly by refusing to put the issue of the resumption

of Egyptian-Arab relations to the test. He did not make this a basic issue, and this has had a good effect in these countries. He stated that there have been many positive gestures in Egyptian-Arab relations and that he does not believe diplomatic ties are a hindrance. He said that relations will be resumed in the near future, when the time is right. The problem that has strained these relations for a long time is now over, he stressed.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Sultan Qabus said that dialogue with Iran should be maintained. He made it clear that there is no alternative to dialogue. He noted that the war between Iraq and Iran has continued because those attempting to mediate have failed to come up with solutions providing strong enough motives for the two countries to join the peace plan.

Sultan Qabus said: We have tried to maintain dialogue through various organizations in the Gulf countries. We also tried through other institutions to urge the Islamic countries, the nonaligned states, and the United Nations to seek a suitable peace formula. The basic problem is that certain parties have an interest in the continuation of the war and the superpowers have not pulled their weight in helping to establish peace. [passage omitted]

Responding to a question by the *Al-Musawwar* chief editor, Sultan Qabus asserted that the Gulf states' own capabilities are sufficient to deter all surrounding or possible dangers. He said: It is sufficient at this stage to have the capability to absorb the first strike, hamper occupation, and make any aggressor realize that his aggression will not go unpunished. It is sufficient for us at this stage to be able to hinder an aggressor's plans and gain time for any friendly assistance from abroad.

Speaking on the security of the Strait of Hormuz, Qabus said that most of the Strait belongs to Oman and that its navigable part lies within Omani territorial waters. Should a direct act of aggression take place, however, responsibility extends beyond the Sultanate of Oman. He emphasized that there are enormous international interests at stake in the Gulf, and consequently Gulf security should be a matter for Omani, regional, and international parties. [passage omitted]

PDRY

Al-Dali Returns From Iran, Comments on Visit

EA072112 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, returned to Aden this evening following a visit to the Iranian capital. Brother al-Dali made a statement to ANA in which he said: We conducted an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 3 to 7 January in response to an invitation from Iranian Foreign Minister Brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati. During the visit, we delivered a letter from Brother Haydar 'Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council, to his brother, 'Ali Khamene'i, president of Islamic Republic of Iran, on bilateral relations and other issues of mutual interest. During our stay in Iran, we were able to meet officials there and discuss bilateral cooperation in the economic and commercial fields. The results of these talks were positive.

Dr al-Dali said the talks were conducted in a friendly atmosphere marked by understanding and a common desire to improve relations at all levels. Dr al-Dali said: We stressed our firm and principled stand regarding various regional and international issues including our firm and principled stand on the Iraq-Iran war which calls for a peaceful solution to the conflict between the two peoples and an end to the intensification of the war.

Paper Comments on Murphy Trip, U.S. Credibility

JN071701 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 6 Jan 87 p 5

[Editorial: "Murphy's Trip and U.S. Credibility in the Middle East"]

[Text] Approximately 10 months after the U.S. Government suspended its participation in the Middle East peace process, the Reagan administration has resumed its efforts to activate that process in the region through the trip which Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, starts today to explore all aspects of the situation and the prospects of peace in the region.

First of all, we expect and hope the U.S. Administration, represented by Murphy, will show more seriousness this time to restore some of the credibility which the Reagan administration lost as a result of that [Iran arms deal] scandal which had a negative effect — of course — on the extent and possibility of Arab countries, particularly the moderate ones, trusting the U.S. Administration.

To return to Murphy's trip, we hope one of its main aims will be to persuade the Israeli Government under Yitzhaq Shamir of the importance of providing the right atmosphere for peace, as well as of the need to abide by what was declared during the Alexandria summit between Shim'on Peres, who was then Israel's prime minister, and President Husni Mubarak regarding the convocation of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, in view of Shamir's repeated statements recently that he rejects the convocation of such a conference.

Preparing the atmosphere for peace should be the responsibility of all parties concerned without exception. The Arab parties have shown their sincere desire for peace as demonstrated by Moroccan King Hassan II's reception of Peres in Rabat; PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's repeated statements on his faith in the need to establish a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace; King Husayn's well-known stands on this issue; and Egypt's current efforts to revive Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, based on Egypt's principled stand on peace which has become the core of its policy.

All these demonstrate a true Arab desire for peace. Israel, however, always announces it wants peace but acts otherwise through the continuation of its arbitrary practices in the occupied territories and its adoption of a policy of violence and force, the latest act being the savage raids on four villages in south Lebanon the day before yesterday.

Multinational Force Begins Operations in Tabah

NC071428 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Tabah, 7 Jan (MENA) — Arrangements for the official entry of the multinational force into Tabah were completed at 1000 today. An observation post for the force was set up in Tabah and the flag of the multinational force was hoisted at the site, as agreed by the Egyptian-Israeli Liaison Committee. Attending the opening ceremony were Major General Faruq Labib, head of the Egyptian Liaison Committee; General (Orin Shakhur), head of the Israeli Liaision Committee; and General (Emgebrigtfen), commander of the multinational force.

The responsibilities of the 10-man force involve ensuring there are no military troops or weapons within Tabah, and that any security-related offenses that may be perpetrated are reported to the police of the country concerned.

General (Emgebrigtfen) said a few words on the occasion. He stated that the force had been asked to begin operating in Tabah within 30 days of the exchange of the instruments of ratification concerning the Tabah arbitral compromis and the border marker dispute between Egypt and Israel.

Gen (Emgebrigtfen), Maj Gen Faruq Labib, and Gen (Shakhur) then performed the inauguration ceremony by cutting a ribbon and hoisting the force's flag. This marked the commencement of the multinational force's official duties in Tabah.

Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, said the multinational force will begin its operations in Tabah as of today. Its operations will continue for the transitional period during which the arbitration procedures take place. The force's task is defined by the terms of the agreement of 25 April 1982, which outlines the framework within which the force will operate so as to enable it to fulfill its tasks appropriately.

Ambassador Al-'Arabi pointed out that the multinational force will perform its duties until the arbitration panel gives its ruling and this ruling is implemented.

Al-'Arabi said the force will have the right while in Tabah to travel to the observation post [as received], adding that the force's entry into Tabah ushers in a new stage and underlines the transitional status of Tabah, pending the arbitration panel's verdict.

AL-AKHBAR Views Israel's Policy over Tabah

NC080810 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* newspaper has denounced Israel's fraudulent policy. The paper notes an Israeli military spokesman's remarks that the Israeli Army will continue to control its positions in Tabah after the deployment of the observers and the Sinai multinational force. The paper also highlights the spokesman's claim that the arbitral compromis does not stipulate the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Tabah under present circumstances.

In its editorial today, *Al-Akhbar* says the arbitral compromis agreement provides for the entry of the multinational force into Tabah 1 month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification. It also states the multinational force will continue to discharge its obligations in Tabah throughout the 18-month deliberations of the arbitration committee. *Al-Akhbar* points out that under the terms of the arbitral compromis the multinational force's task is to man an observation post to watch out for any violations by the Armed Forces of either party while the arbitra-

tion procedures are in progress. It also has the responsibility of ensuring there are no weapons within the Tabah area.

Al-Akhbar stresses that all points of the agreement are quite clear. The arbitral compromise provides for the withdrawal of every armed Israeli from Tabah; namely, ending the Israeli military presence in Tabah. *Al-Akhbar* questions the reasons for these Israeli evasions and says Israel is seeking to stir up controversy and tension at the last moment, with or without any ulterior motive. Is it possible to believe claims that those doing this wish to achieve peace?

Ghali Denounces Libyan Aggression Against Chad

NC080510 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has denounced the Libyan aggression against Chad. He stated: It is regrettable to see Libya, an Arab state which has suffered from imperialism and foreign intervention throughout its history, now attempting to extend its influence, domination, and colonialism to a neighboring African state. It is seeking to annex some of that state's territory and to openly interfere in its internal affairs.

In an interview with *Al-Akhbar*, scheduled for publication in its Thursday edition, Dr Ghali affirmed that the falsity of the claim that the conflict in Chad is just a civil war between opposing Chadian groups has now become crystal clear. The fierce fighting currently taking place in northern Chad is between regular Libyan forces and the Chadian national forces. This is a fact no one can deny.

He affirmed Egypt's opposition to military occupation and interference in the internal affairs of others. It supports the Chadian Government's right to use all available means to liberate its territory and to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence.

He noted that Chad's sovereignty extends to every part of its territory, regardless of whether it lies north or south of the 16th parallel dividing the Chadian and Libyan forces. This is an imaginary line which does not represent a limit to sovereignty.

Dr Ghali attributed the recent flare-up in the fighting to the fact that the government forces have united with other Chadian national forces to drive out the Libyan occupation troops and liberate the homeland. This has led to the dispatch of Libyan reinforcements and the use of Libyan rockets, aircraft, and modern weapons against the Chadian nationals.

Mubarak Meets With Sudanese Industry Minister

NC071426 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met today with Sudanese Industry Minister Mubarak Fadil al-Mahdi and the members of his delegation. Industry Minister Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab was also present.

The Sudanese industry minister described his meeting with President Mubarak as fruitful and frank. He noted that their talks had focused on such issues as economic, industrial, and agricultural integration, which has food self-sufficiency as its goal.

He added that identical views were expressed on all subjects discussed, giving a strong push to the work of the committees drafting an outline, which will be agreed upon by the governments and constitutional organizations of Egypt and Sudan, and will serve as a framework for bilateral ties. The minister pointed out that he delivered a message from the Sudanese prime minister to President Mubarak on the course of relations between the two countries and the planning of their future within a sound framework, which will be presented to the governments and constitutional organizations of both states.

The Sudanese official concluded by noting that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi will visit Egypt, and his trip will mark the culmination of our relations.

Mubarak Receives Message From UAE President

NC072211 Cairo MENA in English 1929 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, Jan 7 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received today a message from United Arab Emirates (U.A.E) President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan on bilateral relations and the Arab situation.

The head of the UAE interests section, 'Abd al-Hadi al-Khajah, delivered the message during his meeting today with first foreign undersecretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, Dr Usamah al-Baz.

Kuwaiti Businessmen Arrive in Cairo for Talks

NC072109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — A delegation of Kuwaiti businessmen led by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Saqr, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, arrived in Cairo this evening on a 7-day visit to Egypt. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development.

In an arrival statement, Al-Saqr said this visit by Kuwaiti businessmen and investors seeks to explore possibilities for investment in Egypt in the agricultural and industrial fields. [passage omitted]

Official Talks Begin With Turkish Delegation

TA080751 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2100 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Minister of Culture and Tourism Mesut Yilmaz, currently in Egypt on an official visit, has begun his contacts in Cairo. He met with Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Muhammad Najib Sidqi this morning. During the talks which dealt with bilateral relations, Sidqi invited Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to visit Egypt.

Yilmaz later met with Egyptian Minister of Education Ahmad Fahri Surur. The issue of correcting wrong information regarding Turkish history was discussed during the talk and an agreement was reached on convening a meeting on this subject in February. He then visited 'Ayn Shams University in Cairo.

Official talks between Turkish and Egyptian delegations have also begun in Cairo. The subject of vitalizing the protocol signed in the wake of the third round of talks held by the Turkish-Egyptian Joint Tourism Committee in Ankara last year was discussed during the talks. The issue of Turkish-Egyptian cooperation in joint marketing and transportation ventures in third countries was also taken up during the meeting.

Talks Held With Hungarian Agricultural Group

NC071657 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation, today received a Hungarian agricultural delegation currently on a visit to Egypt. The delegation is led by Dr Istvan Doboczki, Hungarian deputy minister of agriculture and food. Discussion at the meeting focused on agricultural cooperation and its prospects with regard to agricultural mechanization, rabbit breeding, fish farms, and the production of high yield hybrids of certain crops, particularly corn and sunflowers.

Eng 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, chairman of the NDP committee on popular development, also met with the delegation members. They discussed the possibility of Hungarian participation in three fish farms, as well as in the production of vegetables and the breeding of rabbits in Kafr al-Shaykh and Ismailia.

The Egyptian-Hungarian joint committee on agriculture began its meetings this morning. Dr Ahmad Mumtaz, deputy chief of the Agricultural Research Center, is the head of the Egyptian delegation to these talks, while Doboczki is leading the Hungarian representatives. The purpose of these meetings is to explore the possibilities for bilateral cooperation in agriculture.

GDR Trade Delegation Ends Visit, Departs 7 Jan

NC072143 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — A GDR trade delegation led by (Chester Reimer), Foreign Trade Ministry under secretary, left Cairo for home this afternoon at the conclusion of a 5-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, a bilateral barter agreement, worth $55 million, was signed for an exchange of commodities.

According to this agreement, Egypt will export raw cotton, cotton yarn, clothes, leather goods, and oranges to the GDR, while the GDR will export building tools and machines to Egypt.

Ghali Departs for Official Visit to Cameroon

NC081012 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo this morning for an 8-day official visit to Cameroon. Prior to his departure, Ghali said that on behalf of President Mubarak he will meet with Cameroon President Paul Biya and participate in the Egyptian-Cameroonian committee meetings to examine diplomatic, economic, and technical cooperation. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Notes Antiriot Activities

NC071621 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — Interior Minister Zaki Badr today announced that the police are dealing with all attempts to instigate riots or to disrupt the security of the country. The minister noted that the police confronted a number of troublemakers yesterday. The group was attempting to glorify Sulayman Khatir [the Egyptian soldier who shot Israeli tourists in the Sinai in October 1985]. They claimed he should be regarded as the equal of such Egyptian leaders as Mustafa Kamil, Sa'd Zaghlul, and Tal'at Harb. Their motives can only be explained by noting their blind hatred and their irresponsibile and antinational feelings.

Speaking to the Cairo police and Central Security Forces Command in Al-Darka barracks, the interior minister said these same troublemakers tried to incite unrest among the Al-Zaqaziq University students. They wanted to disrupt security in this country, he affirmed. However, the security forces would not allow them to succeed. Zaki Badr warned against any further incidents of this kind.

Asyut Court Releases 'Extremist' Group Members

NC072032 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1937 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — During a session this evening, under its president, Fu'ad al-Fiqi, the Supreme State Security Court in Asyut ordered the release of six members of the extremist group who had been detained after Friday prayers in Asyut on 26 December. The imprisonment of 11 other members will continue.

The prosecution had charged the defendants with illegal assembly and resisting authorities following Friday prayers in the city's Al-Rahman Mosque. The defendants had occupied the mosque and prevented the imam from delivering his sermon.

The same court released 12 people and ordered the continued imprisonment of 93 others the day before yesterday.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives, Holds Talks

JN071953 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Baghdad this evening on an official visit to the country. His majesty was accorded an official welcome headed by President Saddam Husayn. RCC members Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Taha Muyhi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and National Assembly speaker; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and head of the accompanying mission of honor; Ahmad Husayn, director of the Presidential Office; the ministers; the president's secretary; the Army chief of staff; and the staff of the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad also welcomed the king. His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal is accompanied by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

Following a brief rest at the great hall of honor, during which President Saddam Husayn and his guest His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal exchanged cordial conversation, President Saddam Husayn accompanied his guest His Majesty King Husayn in an official motorcade to his place of residence.

A meeting was then held between President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal during which they discussed the strong brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries and the Arab situation in general. The Army chief of staff presented an explanation of our valiant Armed Forces' glorious victories in the Great Day Battle in the VII and III Army Corps sectors, the defeat of the aggressor Iranian regime's attack, the absolute and comprehensive destruction of the attack, and the bitter and grave losses inflicted on the Iranian enemy.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC memebr and first deputy prime minister; Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of information and culture and head of the mission of honor accompanying His Majesty King Husayn; Ahmad Husayn, director of the Presidential Office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Saddam Husayn Warns Against Shelling Basra

JN071316 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has said that there are a million Iraqi citizens in the city of Basra, in addition to the Iraqi Army, who are ready to fight against Iranian forces to prevent them from encroaching on the city.

While decorating a number of field commanders and fighters with the Al-Rafidayn and valor medals, the president warned the Iranian rulers against shelling Basra once again. He added: You must destroy the cities of anyone who shells Basra with a mortar rocket. President Saddam Husayn pointed out: They have been shelling Basra for 6 months. So far we have shown patience and did not reply to them. I believe that the Iranian people will understand that their rulers have gone too far.

The president added: When we attack a factory which supports their war efforts, they reply by shelling Basra. They also do the same with certain other Arab states. President Saddam Husayn said: Iraq is not the only country which was exposed to the Iranian military aggression. Four Arab states were also officially exposed to Iranian aggressions: Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

The president pointed out: They carried out an aggression against Bahrain with the aim of changing the regime there, they attacked the Kuwaiti amir to change the regime, and they carried out an aggression against Saudi Arabia which had downed two of their planes. This is in addition to their attacks on the oil installations in the UAE and on the commerical ships which belong to these countries.

President Saddam Husayn praised the Iraqi Army's ability to repulse the Iranian aggressions. He said: We now have the power to fight on the fronts of two, three, or even four corps with the same strength because not only has the size of the Army developed, but also its quality. He stressed that during "The Great Day Battle" the Army corps did not run out of reserves and that the General Command had used only a part of these.

President Saddam Husayn affirmed that the Iranian military option has been foiled and that the efforts to prolong the war constitute a Zionsit attempt to hamper Iraq's progress. He said: Zionism itself knows well that there is no use in prolonging this war. Time has turned against their allies who advised them that time would be against Iraq. The president affirmed that life in Iraq is progressing and that a great catastrophe exists in Iran. Life there has come to a standstill, and deterioration continues in all fields. He added that the size of this catastrophe will become clear at the end of the war.

President Saddam Husayn added that Khomeyni had dealt harshly with the Iranian people, and that he was the cause of the bad economic situation, the lack of social care, in addition to the crematorium which he inflicted on the Iranian peoples as a result of all the battles, including the recent battle.

The president said that the Iranians' morale is diminishing and popular oppostiion to the regime is increasing, in addition to the fact that their relations with Zionism have been exposed. President Saddam Husayn said: In turn, the Iraqi Army posseses sound means, a clear and just stand, continuous supplies, popular support and sacrifices, and pure consciences plus the fact that life progresses uninterrupted in the rear lines.

The decoration of the field commanders took place as a result of their distinguished, responsible, and brave stands during "The Great Day Battle," in which the III and VII Army Corps crushed the Iranian offensive in their sectors.

Also decorated were Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban; VII Army Corps Commander Staff Lieutenant General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid; and Staff General Tali' Khalil al-Duri, who were decorated with the Al-Rafidayn Medal, Second Class, military type. In addition five other pilot generals were decorated with the Al-Rafidayn Medal, Third Class, military type, and three other brigadier generals received the Medal of Valor. A number of officers of various rank were also decorated.

Communique No 2,518 Details 6-7 Jan Combat

JN071738 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,518 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With rare courage and high efficiency, our Armed Forces are continuing their heroic confrontation of the aggressor rogues. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Our antiaircraft air defenses in the VII Army Corps sector shot down an enemy drone which was seen falling ablaze in enemy territory. Our units in the same sector used their weapons to pound enemy positions and engineering works, destroying a number of engineering equipment and infantry positions. They also captured nine Kalashnikov rifles and three light launchers left by the enemy in previous battles.

2. With efficient combat capabilities, our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah inflicted the following losses on the Khomeyniite aggressors:

The killing of five enemy soldiers.

The burning of a vehicle and the damaging of another.

The destruction of a raft.

The destruction of a 60-mm mortar and a medium machine gun.

The destruction of one shovel [preceding word in English].

The destruction of three different positions and the setting of fires on the enemy side.

3. One of our units in the II Army Corps central sector sighted an enemy patrol and our unit pounded it with its weapons and forced it to flee after inflicting human losses on it. Elsewhere in the same sector, one enemy soldier was killed and another was wounded.

4. Effective artillery and mortar fire was directed against enemy positions opposite our units in the sector of the Special I Army corps — The Allahu Akbar Forces — inflicting losses in personnel and equipment.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 January 1987

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Algiers 7 Jan

JN072006 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jan (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad this evening following an offical 3-day visit to Algeria. Tariq 'Aziz conveyed a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with brotherly bilateral relations and the Arab situation, especially the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq. He explained the message also dealt with pan-Arab issues and Arab and international issues of mutual concern.

Tariq 'Aziz said he is carrying a reply message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to his brother President Saddam Husayn expressing a desire to bolster relations between the two fraternal countries. During the visit Tariq 'Aziz held talks with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi on ways of promoting relations between the two countries and discussed Arab and international issues.

King Husayn, Delegation Depart for Baghdad
JN071620 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman for Baghdad this afternoon on a working visit to Iraq during which he will meet with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and senior Iraqi officials. The meetings will take place as part of consultations and coordination between the two countries' on the overall situation in the Arab arena, on developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and on the close brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries.

His majesty was seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by his personal representative His Highness Prince Muhammad, Crown Prince Hasan, the Senate president, his highness the chief chamberlain, the ministers, and senior civilian and military officials. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath before his majesty the king in the presence of the ministers as regent during his majesty's absence from the homeland.

His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and Staff General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces. The Iraqi ambassador in Amman left aboard the same plane.

Further on King's Meetings With Richard Murphy
JN071639 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace today Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. During the meeting, his majesty stressed Jordan's firm position on achieving a peaceful settlement in the Middle East based on convening an international conference to be attended by all parties to the conflict as well as the five permanent UN Security Council member-states.

The meeting, which was interrupted by a working luncheon, was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, his highness the chief chamberlain, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the foreign minister. It was also attended by the U.S. ambassador in Amman and some members of the delegation accompanying Murphy.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Questions Murphy Visit Motives
JN071533 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jan 87 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "What Does Murphy Want?"]

[Text] It is certain that Richard Murphy will find in his new fact-finding tour what he did not find in all his old "shuttle trips," whose results were scattered like yellow autumn leaves. It is true he came in winter while life-bringing rain fell on most capitals, but he is certainly facing a blocked horizon shaken by the winds of lack of confidence in U.S. credibility — a credibility that was lost when all U.S. capabilities were devoted to sending weapons and ammuniton to Tehran. Like Israel, Tehran is excessively hostile to the Arabs and to every settlement and any reasonable solution for peace. Iran rejects any settlement and peaceful initiative launched by Iraq, the Islamic community, and the world. Israel masses its efforts against the international conference, the Palestinian people's rights, and all peace initiatives, foremost being the 1982 Reagan initiative. These are barriers erected by two countries harm humanity and prevent peace in a region where salvation has become a top priority.

Thus U.S. credibility has become meaningless. In fact, the U.S. position, which rejects an international peace conference, the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights, and the PLO as the legitimate representative of these people, becomes naturally allied with two aggressive countries: Israel and Iran. What then does Murphy want at a time when all these issues have preceded him and have drawn a true picture of U.S. credibility and the real U.S. behavior, which is much different from what is in his diplomatic pouch. The scandal of U.S. weapons to Tehran represents the straw which broke the camel's back. If Murphy wants to hear any remarks, let him check his notebook, which has many facts about the region and Arab peace proposals. If he wants to exonerate himself of the harm inflicted on the Arab homeland in the wake of the famous scandal, it is impossible to expect goodwill from one side while the flow of weapons to Israel and Tehran continues. Is this the peace the Americans envisage? Or is it the theory that says "if you want peace you have to get ready for war?"

Therefore, Murphy's current visit is the most difficult in the history of "U.S. shuttle diplomacy," about which words are useless due to the new and old U.S. positions on the Middle East and the Gulf war. What is solely acceptable to us are not new U.S. promises to solve the region's crisis but the launching of a written, documented, and practical program dealing with the following facts: A date for holding the international conference, recognition of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people, and integrated views on a peace plan. This has always constituted Jordan's constant principles and was presented as a final formula for establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Aircraft Destroyed in Beirut Airport Attack

NC080826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0805 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text]Security sources have said that the bombardment of Beirut International Airport stopped a short while ago. The airport came under shellfire at 0845 today from positions in the Al-Wadaya area in East Beirut, according to security sources. The same sources linked the shelling of the airport with earlier threats by the Lebanese Forces to close down Khaldah Airport unless Halat Airport is opened. It should be recalled that the Lebanese Forces made several fruitless attempts to get international parties to use Halat Airport.

As a result of the shelling, a Middle East Airlines Boeing 727, with no passengers aboard, was destroyed by fire. Furthermore, several cars and a quantity of equipment were set alight. Firefighters are still trying to extinguish the flames.

Shelling Ends; Israeli Flights

NC080832 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0807 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] We have just been informed that the bombardment of Beirut International Airport stopped at 0940. A fireman was injured in the shelling while trying to extinguish the blaze which, as we reported earlier, destroyed a plane belonging to Middle East Airlines.

Israeli aircraft broke the sound barrier while the airport was under fire.

PFLP Denies Shelling Airport

NC081123 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] In response to allegations by the Phalangist media, which claimed that the Amal Movement said today's shelling had come from emplacements on the mountain, a security report from the Amal Movement's 5th Section notes that such cheap intrigues will fool no one. The report adds that Beirut International Airport was the target of mortar fire from Al-Wadaya at 0850 today. Some 10 rounds struck the facility, setting an aircraft on fire and causing other damage.

Meanwhile, Colonel Abu Ahmad Fu'ad, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, has released the following statement: At 0845 today, Beirut Airport was subjected to 30 minutes of concentrated fire from Lebanese Forces positions in East Beirut. The Phalangist and Lebanese Forces radios reported that Palestinian artillery was responsible. As such, we are eager to affirm the following:

1. The Revolution Forces have no interest in shelling the airport.

2. Our forces have not fired at the airport or at anything else.

3. The Lebanese Forces were the ones who bombarded the Airport, as they have been unable to open Halat as a substitute.

Lebanese Forces Statement

NC081051 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] A security source in the Lebanese Forces has issued the following statement:

1. Only minutes after the bombardment of Beirut International Airport, certain sectors of the media began accusing the Lebanese Forces of this shelling, claiming that it followed earlier threats to open Halat Airport. The Lebanese Forces would like to emphasize that today's bombardment did not originate from the eastern areas.

2. While stressing the need to open Halat Airport and for Middle East Airlines to use it, the Lebanese Forces declare that they have no interest in shutting down Khaldah Airport. The Lebanese Forces want to open a second terminal, not close the existing one.

3. The Lebanese Forces view today's shelling as part of the ongoing war in the other areas. It also is related to the complicated and escalating political struggles, which have yet to be resolved.

Group Claims Attack on Camille Sham'un

NC080728 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] An anonymous caller contacted us yesterday evening and read the following statement: The Lebanese Forces-the Bashir Forces-the Liberals-the Vengeance Forces [Al-Quwwat al-Lubnaniyah-Quwwat al-Bashir-Al-Ahrar-Quwwat al-Intiqam]. To the Lebanese people: Greetings! The Leader Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil Group has carried out an operation against those forces, headed by agent Camille Sham'un, that have betrayed Bashir's policies. The group parked a booby-trapped car on Corniche al-Nahr street, but fate intervened, and agent Sham'un escaped unharmed. The Lebanese Forces-the Bashir Forces-the Liberals pledge to the entire Lebanese people that they will liquidate those who have betrayed Bashir's course, foremost of whom are Amin al-Jumayyil, Samir Ja'ja', and anyone who claims to be following the road of that heroic leader, Bashir al-Jumayyil.

[Signed] The Lebanese Forces-the Vengeance Forces

Sham'un on Attempt

NC071736 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Speaking to foreign reporters this evening, former President Camille Sham'un said that what he was subjected to today was an act of terror. He appealed to the West to do something to fight terrorism.

Responding to a question on whether there was any connection between the ongoing exchanges with Syria and the assassination attempt, Sham'un stated: This is possible. However, it is still too early to disclose the identity of the culprits.

5 Killed, 10 Wounded in East Beirut Shelling
NC081149 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Excerpts] As of noon today, 5 people had been killed and more than 10 others wounded in the barbaric shelling of the eastern areas. [passage omitted]

Al-Hadath, Al-Hazimiyah, and B'abda suddenly came under rocket and artillery fire from the Al-Marmil section of Beirut's southern suburb. The bombardment intensified at approximately 1245, and tank guns, as well as trajectory and flat-trajectory weapons, were used. A bus was also hit, and a number of citizens were either killed or wounded.

At 1245, the security committee held an extraordinary meeting in its headquarters at the racetrack. All its members were present, and talks focused on the deteriorating security situation. The committee members are holding consultations to stop the shelling of residential areas.

AL-BA'TH, AL-THAWRAH Reaffirm Stance on Egypt

JN070843 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0527 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Our Arab Situation Is Peculiar and Extraordinary," *Al-Ba'th* says: Those who call for Mubarak's return to Arab ranks on the pretext of achieving solidarity are actually calling for capitulating to Israel. How can we extend a hand to a ruler who relinquished his Arabism, homeland, and people and capitulated to Talmudic dreams? How can we extend a hand to a ruler who allowed Zionist Peres to defile the soil of a fraternal Arab country? How can we forgive a ruler who waged a crazy war against a revolution whose main principles are based on fighting Israel? Consequently, how can we forgive a retarded person who is getting ready to join Camp David after he has voiced his recognition of Israel? This is our peculiar and extraordinary situation.

Those traitors represent only themselves. Their agentry to our savage enemy has not prevented the Arab nation's masses from adhering to their Arabism. Settling this peculiar situation therefore cannot be achieved by calling for a solidarity that ignores the usurped rights and wounded dignity. We want a solidarity that will mobilize pan-Arab potential in the battle of the one destiny. Do some sides have to go back to school to learn the basic principles of pan-Aabism?

On the Egyptian regime's return to Arab ranks the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* says: He who follows the Egyptian regime's policy and practices will realize that the changes this regime made in its course were not in favor of Arabs but were aimed at promoting relations with the Zionists.

It seems that the attempts of the Camp David supporters are no longer confined to the Arab arena but have recently escalated to exploit the coming Islamic conference to break the Egyptian regime's isolation and to peddle its treasonous goods. Those who pant after Camp David have forgotten that the Egyptian regime has expressed its full support for Judaizing holy Jerusalem and that the henchmen of this regime have distorted the Holy Koran when, under Zionist pressure, they prevented the recitation of Koranic verses that denounce Jews and expose their treachery. They have also forgotten that the previous Islamic conference set as a condition for Egypt's return that it should break relations with Zionism and end its commitments toward Israel. Thus, all facts prove that the Camp David regime in Egypt has escalated its national and pan-Arab deviation and continued its disavowal of Egypt's Arab and Islamic heritage.

Therefore, what is required now is to tighten the siege of this regime, liquidate its influence and cancerous repercussions, and prevent them from spreading to the Arab and Islamic arenas. Only in this way can we help Egypt become strong, prosperous, and free. Any effort that goes counter to this course is a suspect action that deserves denunciation and condemnation.

Peres Denies Sending Letter to Reagan on Iran

TA080616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush was thoroughly briefed by 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's adviser on terrorism affairs, about the arms shipments to Iran and the attempts to secure the release of the U.S. hostages during his visit to Israel about 6 months ago. This information was going to be published in a report drawn up by the Senate Intelligence Committee in Washington, but the White House asked it to drop these details. This was reported last night by CBS.

It was also noted the White House asked that a copy of a letter Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres sent to President Reagan immediately after the uproar over the arms shipments to Iran broke out be omitted from the report. In his letter, Mr Peres called on the President not to stop the contacts with Iran and to be patient because this policy would bear fruit. This morning, the vice prime minister categorically denied he had written such a letter to President Reagan.

HA'ARETZ Assesses Prospects for Murphy Mission

TA071240 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Jan 87 p 9

[Commentary by Aqiva Eldar: "Murphy's Mission"]

[Text] It is being reported President Reagan himself, between one disclosure on the Iranian affair and another, took the time to decide on sending Richard Murphy to this region. Earlier, the President listened to the warm recommendation of Secretary of State George Shultz who had read the report drawn up by Murphy after hearing the recommendations of U.S. ambassadors in the Middle East. Murphy recently summoned them to London and all of them, without exception, argued this is a propitious time to renew the U.S. involvement in the peace process.

Indeed, Murphy is due in Jerusalem tomorrow where he will meet with Yitzhaq Shamir in the Prime Minister's Office for the first time. He will see immediately that things have changed: Shamir is no longer a senior minister who automatically reports on contacts in the Arab capitals, and the validity of the formulas about an international conference emerging from Shim'on Peres' surroundings is not what it used to be before the rotation. The importance of the U.S. envoy's shuttle trips between the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry will be almost tantamount to that of his trips between Amman and Jerusalem. When the Americans say the main purpose of the trip is to conduct an updated assessment of the situation, they also mean an assessment of the balance of power between the two courts in Jerusalem.

It is no mere coincidence that Murphy begins his trip in Amman today. By doing that, he is pointing to the place where the solution to the political stalemate actually lies. The process got bogged down about a year ago when King Husayn despaired of his attempt to twist Yasir 'Arafat's arm. Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has been attempting unsuccessfully ever since then to persuade Jordan to resume the dialogue with the PLO on the basis of the February 1985 agreement. Husayn is determined to speak to 'Arafat only after the latter has said "I do" three times. As long as the PLO leader does not accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338, does not recognize Israel, and does not declare an end to terrorism, the king is not prepared to waste his time on futile conversations with him. Murphy cannot and does not want to twist the king's arm and the Americans have not had any dealings with 'Arafat in a long time. Therefore, the renewed U.S. initiative should not be expected to bring a solution to the question of the Palestinian representation any closer.

In his last trip to the Middle East, Shultz coined the phrase "Palestinian representatives from the heart of the realm of consensus." Palestinians such as the eternal Hanna Sinyurah and Fayiz Abu Rahmah are at the heart of this consensus. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who stands halfway between Peres and Shamir, has recently declared that any inhabitant of the territories is qualified to represent the Palestinians in negotiations. Rabin is very skeptical about the chances of forming an alternate leadership to the PLO from among the king's supporters in the short- and medium- term.

Hence, Murphy will pick it up from here. He will attempt to find out whether the sides are prepared to open a dialogue (preparatory talks) with the participation of Palestinians who will enjoy 'Arafat's tacit approval and to leave the door open to the PLO to join the discussions when it is ready. This will not happen before moderate elements within the PLO persuade 'Arafat that the stalemate, more than his obstinacy, jeopardizes his status. People close to Peres do not pin too much hope on a breakthrough in the search for Palestinian partners acceptable to all. Therefore, the emerging tendency is to obviate this obstacle for the time being and to busy oneself with the model for an international conference.

The sides have yet to bridge over very deep differences on this issue. Jordan demands the inclusion of the Soviet Union and does not accept the Israeli (and American) conditions for inviting the Soviets; namely, a real change in its emigration policy and a resumption of relations. Husayn cannot afford to ignore the existence of the northern neighbor. It is highly unlikely, therefore, that Jordan will forsake the interests of the Syrian-Soviet flank. This is also why Jordan should not be expected to yieldon its demand that the direct negotiations between the sides be linked to the international forum.

Husayn demands that he at least be given the authority to discuss any appeals that come up against resolutions adopted by the bilateral forums. Murphy will probably appease Husayn and tell him that when the dialogue starts, Hafiz al-Asad will realize that threatening Jordan would actually be tantamount to playing with fire with the hard core of Israel and the United States.

However one turns Murphy's itinerary around, one necessarily gets to Amman. Messages coming from there show the king is following the U.S. calendar with concern. In deciding whether the time is ripe for new political adventures, Husayn must choose between the assessment that favors peace initiatives for another 3 years and the more pessimistic assessment that there is nothing to the current U.S. moves in the region. If Murphy gains the impression during his trip that the sides in the region are more

receptive to contacts, he will have to convince the administration to divert all its weight to this area.

Jerusalem fears (some people are encouraged) that in the aftermath of the Iranian affair this weight will amount to that of a feather. By the time Reagan recovers from all the maladies afflicting him, America will be at the year's end and will find itself involved in a presidential election campaign. A new president will need another year to get acquainted with the problems — and there you have 3 years of stalemate.

On the other hand, Murphy will try to persuade King Husayn, especially in light of the Iranian affair, that the United States is particularly interested at this time in demonstrating its reliability and commitment to its traditional friends in the region, friends who were very much hurt by its romance with the mistress in Tehran.

Meanwhile Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir, is promoting the direct Jerusalem-Cairo route. He is again arguing that the United States has never played a major role in the peace initiatives in the Middle East and that its contribution has become important only after the sides were ready for it (compare Al-Sadat's visit and the Camp David accords with Reagan's peace initiative). Murphy himself does not have what it takes to make a political breakthrough and therefore one should not look for that which cannot be found in his trips but rather welcome the very resumption of political movement in the Middle East. We should count ourselves lucky even if we only help the U.S. Administration demonstrate for domestic purposes that there is "business as usual."

Sources Say Lavi Alternatives Will Be Rejected

TA071159 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Jan 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Arye Arad and U.S. correspondent Amnon Dankner]

[Text] Senior government sources believe Israel will reject the alternatives to the Lavi proposed by the Pentagon and the project will proceed as planned. Following U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Dov Zakheim's round of talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, and Finance Minister Moshe Nisim, it became clear a majority could not be mustered in either the Economic Cabinet, the Inner Cabinet, or the Cabinet Plenum to cancel the project.

U.S. correspondent Amnon Dankner reports that Secretary of State Shultz has recently joined the opposition to the Lavi project. To date, Secretary of Defense Weinberger had been reported to oppose the project but it now emerges that Shultz also wants to find a way to persuade Israel to abandon manufacturing the Lavi. U.S. State Department sources said yesterday that Shultz cosigned with Weinberger the letter Zakheim brought to Israel in which they plead with the Israeli Government to seriously consider the alternatives proposed by the assistant secretary of defense. A State Department source said yesterday the fact that George Shultz is known as a staunch Israeli supporter is conclusive proof that the opposition to the Lavi does not stem from anti-Israeli feelings.

The assessments that if the Finance Ministry abandons implementing the cut in the defense budget — at the moment, it indeed looks that way — and if the purchase power of the dollar is maintained at a realistic level, the defense establishment will be able to go ahead with the Lavi project even with partial U.S. aid. Nevertheless, Minister Moshe Arens believes if Israel insists on going ahead with the project, Washington will probably put the necessary funds at Israel's disposal in the end. "The alternatives are Secretary of Defense Weinberger's last effort to torpedo the project, after the U.S. comptroller general contradicted Zakheim's calculations," one source said.

The comptroller general's calculations are very important because some of the most prominent Israeli supporters in Congress have made their continued support of the Lavi conditional on his calculations being closer to Israel's estimates than to those of the Pentagon. The conclusion that a Lavi will cost $17 million — more or less the price tag for an F-16 — is compatible with the estimates of the Grumman Corporation, a partner in the project which assesses that at such a cost, preferrence should be given to the Lavi.

The assessment that "Zakheim's alternatives" would be rejected grew stronger yesterday after it became definitely clear the only real alternative is between going ahead with the Lavi project or buying U.S.-made F-16's without introducing any change in them; all other alternatives are more costly than the Lavi. Even the purchase of F-16's from the United States will not be cheaper than the overall price tag of the Lavi, as shown in the U.S. comptroller general's finding. However, accepting such an alternative would lead to mass unemployment in Israel's industries and thousands of the dismissed workers would not be able to find jobs here and would be forced to look for work abroad. The main obstacle in financing the project lies in the 30-percent revaluation of the shekel compared to the dollar in the last year. Since the current tendency of the Economic Cabinet is to increase export profitability by lowering labor costs to manufacturers, the success of such an effort would consequently cancel the gap in the purchasing power of the dollar and the main obstacle to financing the Lavi with the money from the U.S. aid will have been removed, another source believes.

The same source said Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin uses the defense industries in general, and the Lavi in particular, as a lever to prevent a cut in the defense budget. In exchange for the cut being dropped — in practice, even if not in theory — Rabin would agree to cover the difference between the funds provided by the Americans and the actual costs out of the defense budget. Nevertheless, the funds allocated to that end may be secured separately in the state budget so as to emphasize the national nature of the project.

The sources say the leaders of the two large parties that form the national unity government are unanimous in their support of the Lavi. There is agreement on the subject between the prime minister and Ministers Arens, Sharon, and Levi in the Herut Party; between Ministers Nisim, Moda'i, and Pat in the Liberal Party; and between Ministers Peres and Ya'aqobi — and under certain conditions, Minister Rabin — in the Labor Party. In reply to a question by the DAVAR correspondent last night, Minister Ya'aqobi said: "In view of the current facts and the state

of its development, the Lavi project must continue, although it may be done by dividing the production between Israeli and foreign industries to lower the overall cost to Israel's economy while leaving the technological advantages enjoyed by the economy at large in our hands."

Second Test Flight Conducted

TA081114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] A second test flight on the Lavi was conducted this morning. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the flight lasted 45 minutes, in the course of which the aircraft reached an altitude of 20,000 feet and achieved a speed of 300 knots. The test was designed to examine the engine's performance and the pilot, Menahem Shmul, reported that the Lavi had scored good results. Our correspondent points out that the second prototype of the Lavi underwent a dry run without take-off while the first prototype was in flight.

'Terrorist' Attacks Kill 2 Soldiers Near Jazzin

TA071411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Two South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldiers were killed and three wounded in two attacks by terrorists on an SLA post south of Jazzin, outside the security zone. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that the attacks came in two waves and that both failed. Dozens of terrorists, who apparently belong to radical Shi'ite groups, attacked the post this afternoon using light and heavy arms. Our correspondent points out this is the second attack on an SLA post in 5 days, and the number of SLA soldiers killed so far has now reached 104.

Shamir: Increase Backing of SLA

TA071813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes Israel should increase the backing it gives the SLA, but without increasing its presence in the area. In a talk with members of Parliament from the British Conservative Party, the prime minister expressed concern over the increased PLO presence in southern Lebanon, saying this exacerbates tension in the area. Today two SLA soldiers were killed and three wounded in attacks by terrorists south of Jazzin, outside the security zone.

Rabin On Christian Aid to PLO in Lebanon

TA071700 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today addressed members of the Arye Tzimuqi Zionist Club. Rabin analyzed the situation in Lebanon, our only neighbor with whom the border is still not quiet. In Lebanon, Rabin said, the impossible is possible.

[Begin Rabin recording] Did anyone ever imagine 'Arafat would bring back commanders, organizers — leaders to organize and man the Palestinian infrastructure that remained in Lebanon in the form of refugee camps containing 250,000 to 350,000 Palestinians? And with whose cooperation is he bringing them back? The Christian elements. [end recording]

Rabin added that the Christians aid the Palestinians in the struggles within Lebanon.

[Begin Rabin recording] Did anyone ever imagine that when Amal attacked the Shatila camp in its war with the Palestinians, Christian artillery from East Beirut would help the Palestinians against Amal? These things have happened in the past 1 or 2 months and are continuing. The PLO is returning to Lebanon, mainly through Juniyah. [end recording]

The Syrians, the Israelis, and now the Iranians, too, have learned they cannot rule in Lebanon. Even the Lebanese war did not eliminate terrorism, Rabin said. Elements developing in Lebanon, such as Hizballah, may be even more skilled than those we have encountered to date.

[Begin Rabin recording] To counter all this, we are preparing ourselves, without being deluded about totally eradicating terrorism or preventing kayyushas from falling. Meanwhile, in accordance with the national unity government's decision, the IDF has been able to provide the settlements in the north with a consistent level of reasonable security for more than 1 and 1/2 years. [end recording]

Paper Views 'Moderation' on Palestinian Issue

TA071853 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic
4 Jan 87 pp 1, 5

[Editorial: "Israeli 'Moderation' and the Palestinian Realities"]

[Text] We admit we were taken by surprise upon reading the report published by the *Jerusalem Post* in which it was said a "more moderate" tone in Israeli positions on the Palestinian problem is currently being studied at the government level in Israel.

We would not have been amazed by this report were it not for our long-standing knowledge, gained over scores of years, of the unique intransigence in the Israeli stance toward the Palestinian problem — this same intransigence that has so far managed to bury numerous initiatives aimed at seeking a just and comprehensive solution to the problem.

At any rate, with reference to the potential Israeli "moderation," we would like to put on record the following important, known realities:

1. The Palestinian people are a people whose problem cannot be solved except by official recognition of their legitimate rights, foremost of which are their right to self-determination and the

right to establish an independent Palestinian state on their national soil.

2. Every day the Palestinian people, whether in the occupied lands or in the diaspora, renew their continued commitment to the PLO as their legitimate and sole representative. This indicates the need to have the PLO participate actively and effectively in any negotiations on the Palestinian problem.

3. Therefore there is no value in any Israeli "moderation" toward the Palestinian problem as long as Israel does not officially recognize the PLO as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people at all times and everywhere, consequently regarding it as the only party authorized to talk in the name of the Palestinian people.

On this basis we say: The question does not concern the mere use of "new formulations" in Israeli diplomacy toward the Palestinian problem; rather, the question concerns Israeli readiness to display good intentions toward the Palestinian problem and the adoption of serious and adequate measures to implement these intentions in a speedy manner. This will in fact lead to finding a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem, enabling the Palestinian people to join the group of liberated and independent nations in the world.

Agreement on Economic Plan 'Very Close'

TA080717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] The vice prime minister, the finance minister, the Histadrut secretary, and the head of the Histadrut's trade union department met again last night on the economic plan. Interviewed in the morning newsreel, Mr Peres said the sides are very close to an agreement, although several obstacles still remain. Representatives of the government, the employers, and the Histadrut will confer next week to formulate the final agreement.

Government Studying Cooperation With Soviet Bloc

TA071207 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Jan 87 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Israel has been holding negotiations with Polish, Bulgarian, and Hungarian representatives about agreements on agricultural cooperation, the DAVAR correspondent has learned from an authoritative source. According to this source, representatives of East European countries have recently asked the Israeli Agriculture Ministry for assistance.

Following consultations at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem it was decided to send several Israeli experts to assist Poland, Hungary, and Yugoslavia [as published] with advice.

These countries are particularly interested in experts who would conduct agricultural studies on cattle feeding for them. Israel has already sent some of these experts, whereas others will be sent soon.

In the contacts, the three countries made it clear their ultimate goal is to secure agreements on agricultural cooperation. Officials in the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry believe relations with the Soviet bloc will be expanded with the help of commercial and economic ties rather than by political means.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has recently told close associates he does not pin too much hope on the resumption of diplomatic relations with the East European countries.

Nabulus College Closes To Prevent Disturbances

TA071316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The directorate of the Al-Awdah College in Nabulus has closed the institute until the end of the week for fear of disturbances. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports there were incidents of stone throwing at the college recently, and it was decided to close the institute to prevent a recurrence.

ALGERIA

Iraqi Foreign Minister Meets Bendjedid, Departs

LD072039 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Today at the Presidency, Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general, received Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, who is paying an official visit to Algeria.

Tariq 'Aziz conveyed to the president a message from Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi president. The meeting was attended by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; Brother Larbi Belkheir, director of the presidency office; and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Tariq 'Aziz departed Algeria today at noon following a 3-day official visit. He was seen off at Houari Boumedeinne International Airport by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and the two countries' ambassadors.

Before leaving Algeria, Tariq 'Aziz made a statement to the national press in which he expressed his satisfaction with the results of the visit, during which he had fraternal, thorough talks with Algerian officials on issues that concern the two countries in the Arab east and west, at the forefront of which are the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, the Palestinian issue, and the issues of the Arab Maghreb.

Tariq 'Aziz hailed the spirit of fraternity and mutual understanding that prevailed during his talks with the Algerian officials, which covered cooperation between the two countries and a detailed exchange of views on numerous issues of mutual interest.

It is noteworthy that Tariq 'Aziz carried out a series of talks with Algerian officials during his visit.

'Aziz Describes War Effort

JN070942 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed that during the past 6 years the Iraqis proved that they are capable of fighting and that they can continue the war as long as it is imposed on them.

During a meeting with Algerian journalists and writers in Algiers last night, Tariq 'Aziz said: Although they are waging war to defend Iraq's territory and sovereignty, the Iraqis are ready to extend the hand of peace. He added that the peace which the Iraqis want is based on clear bases represented by a cease-fire agreement, mutual withdrawal to the internationally recognized international borders, a comprehensive exchange of prisoners, the signing of a treaty of good-neighborliness, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. He pointed out that these are not conditions but legitimate bases in accordance with international law.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the people and leadership of Iraq consider the war -- which is imposed on them by Iran -- a national defensive war because the Iranian aggression threatens Iraq's sovereignty and the Iraqis' freedom, and social and economic achievements. Therefore, he said, the Iraqi citizen is bravely defending life to repulse the Iranian onslaught.

'Aziz discussed the recent Iranian aggression on 24 December. He explained that that aggression was crushed by our valiant Armed Forces in less than 48 hours. He stressed that any other aggression will face the same black fate. 'Aziz denounced the Libyan and Syrian regimes' disgraceful stand toward the Iranian aggression against Iraq. He pointed out that these two regimes have adopted erroneous stands through their support of the Iranian aggression against Iraq and its people.

The foreign minister also spoke about Iraq's relations on the Arab and international levels, and the progress of these relations in all fields.

Tariq 'Aziz described his talks with Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, and Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign minister, as objective, frank, and deep concerning the Iraq-Iran war and other pan-Arab issues of common interest to Iraq and Algeria.

LIBYA

USSR, Envoys Informed of French 'Intervention'

LD071652 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1625 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Jan (JANA) — Following the actions of the French forces at noon today, the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison informed a number of foreign ambassadors to the Great Jamahiriyah this evening of the French forces' direct intervention in the fighting in Chad near the Great Jamahiriyah's southern borders.

The Soviet Union has been informed of the development of the situation following the direct intervention of the French forces in the fighting in Chad and has also been informed of the seriousness of the situation resulting from the transformation of Chad into an American-French military base.

It has been pointed out that there is no government in Ndjamena. However, Ndjamena has come under the might of American-French colonialism as a base for launching threats against the southern Libyan Arab border.

French Envoy Summoned

LD072222 Paris Domestic Service in French 2100 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Michel Leveque, French ambassador to Tripoli, was summoned to the Libyan Foreign Ministry this evening. The content of the talks has not been revealed.

French Reports 'Mere Lies'

LD080939 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0920 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Jan (JANA) — JANA has learned that there is no truth to reports by French media about Libyan MiG aircraft bombing the Chadian area of Kouba Olanga, and that these reports are mere lies and fabrications within the context of a campaign of misrepresentation and disinformation.

JANA Condemns Egyptian Stance

LD081133 Tripoli JANA in English 1040 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Alnar 8, Jamahiriyah News Agency — Butrus Ghali has reiterated the supportive stand of the Egyptian puppet regime of Husni al-Barik [literally: the sitting camel, imply incompetence or sluggishness] to the rebel clique in Ndjamena.

In comments made to the periodical [name indistinct], Ghali has said that his regime condemns what he calls the Libyan intervention in Chad, adding that the U.S.-French intervention there is legitimate.

In reply to Ghali's comments, the African affairs editor says that these comments confirm that Ghali and his regime are mere puppets in the hands of U.S. Administration, for the Egyptian regime is basically now a U.S. outpost.

Ghali is merely giving justifications for the U.S.-French intervention in Chad to shed the blood of its people that fights for its freedom.

The editor stresses that similar to puppet Ghali and his regime, rebel Habre is carrying the order of [word indistinct] — the Americans and the French Administrations.

Both Egypt and Ndjamena are teeming now with U.S. and French military people and intelligence advisers.

This traitorous stand displayed from time to time by the Egyptian regime confirms the puppet role designated for it by U.S. imperialism to stand against the struggles of the African people in general and the Chadians in particular.

Hundreds of Veterans Recalled for Fortifications

LD071452 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The arrival of hundreds of military men who had previously been discharged from the Armed Forces is continuing at the fortification posts along the Libyan Arab coastline. They are carrying out defensive fortification operations, digging trenches, laying barbed wire, and planting strategic landmines along the Libyan Arab coastline.

JANA's local affairs commentator has witnessed an unprecedented response by these discharged military men to the appeal of the Libyan Arab Forces' General Command, in which they called upon veterans to rejoin their previous units immediately to take part in fortification operations.

SUDAN

Al-Mirghani Meets With Soviet Ambassador

EA072235 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpt] State Council Chairman Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani and the Soviet ambassador in Khartoum this morning reviewed the progress of bilateral relations and areas of joint cooperation.

The Soviet ambassador explained that he had delivered a verbal message from the CPSU general secretary to the State Council chairman on the occasion of the new year in reply to the letter that his excellency had sent to Mr Gorbachev on the same occasion. He added that at the meeting, they discussed the development of bilateral relations.

They had also dealt with the expected visit of a Soviet parliamentary delegation to Sudan next February. The ambassador said that he informed the State Council chairman of the Soviet Government's desire to rehabilitate the projects that had formerly been established with the Soviet Union's assistance.

On the obstacles to trade between Sudan and the Soviet Union, the ambassador pointed to the existence of some technical problems for Sudanese commodities, samples of which had been sent to the Soviet Union and were rejected by Soviet companies. He said that the implementation of trade agreements has stopped for this reason, but this does not mean they will not continue in the future. He stressed that talks and contacts were in progress with the Sudanese side to solve this problem. [passage omitted]

Al-Mirghani Meets Libya's Mansur in Khartoum

JN071538 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1436 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — State Council Chairman Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani met with the Libyan delegation under Major Kamil Mansur, foreign liaison secretary of the General People's Committee of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, at noon today. Al-Mansur stated that the meeting dealt with the progress and development of bilateral relations and touched on regional as well as Arab issues. The Libyan delegation arrived in the country last Monday to attend the meetings of the joint Sudanese-Libyan ministerial committee, which began yesterday and will last 3 days.

Al-Hindi Receives Mansur

JN072112 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received the visiting Libyan delegation under Kamil Hasan Mansur, foreign liaison secretary of the General People's Congress of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, here today. The meeting dealt with bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all fields.

Al-Hindi Cited on Egyptian POW's, ICO Summit
JN070732 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 6 (SUNA) — Foreign Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi pointed that Iran has promised Sudan to consider the issue of releasing the Egyptian prisoners captured during the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The Iranians said the issue of releasing the estimated 10,000 Egyptian POW's will carefully be taken pending investigation with them, al-Hindi added.

Answering a question by SUNA on Sudan's expected role on the next Islamic conference, Al-Hindi pointed that Sudan has prepared a program comprising Sudan's proposals to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and the Palestinian camps war in Lebanon.

Anya Nya II Repulses Garang Forces Attack
JN071543 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — The newspaper *Al-Sudani* reported today that Anya Nya II announced it had repulsed a perfidious offensive by the John Garang forces against its camp in the (Lika) region along the Ethiopian-Sudanese border.

Movement sources told the paper that 12 members of Garang's forces were killed and a huge number of others were wounded. A large number of weapons, explosives, and rockets were also captured. The movement added that three of its members were killed and five others were wounded.

Sources indicated that the Anya Nya II forces recently launched an attack and captured a camp belonging to Garang's forces in the Sabat Directorate. The Garang forces sustained serious losses in life and equipment. The sources said that Anya Nya II inflicted another defeat on the Garang forces in the Bentiu District in the Upper Nile region and imposed control over the region.

TUNISIA

Tunis Announces Opening of Consulate in Libya
LD081406 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The imminent opening of a Libyan Consulate in Tunis and of a Tunisian Consulate in Tripoli has been announced by Tunisian sources, but an exact date was not specified. This is intended to resolve the material problems of immigrant workers of the two countries. The Tunisians are being very cautious, however, because they regard the dispute with Tripoli as still very serious. [passage omitted]

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR's Abdelaziz Cited on Foreign Ties
PM080928 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 21 Dec 86 p 19

[Interview with SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz by special correspondent Eve Livet; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] [introductory passage omitted]

[Livet] Despite the Polisario Front representatives' expulsion in October 1985, you maintain regular relations with Spain. Tell me, what form do these relations take?

[Abdelaziz] For the past year we have had several contacts at various levels with Spain, with a number of Spanish people and with the Spanish Foreign Ministry, the PSOE [Spanish Socialist Workers Party], and parliament.

They promised us unanimously that they would define relations between our two countries with a view to subsequent more official meetings. But when the time came they asked us to wait until certain Spanish domestic political matters — such as EEC membership, the elections, or the formation of the government — had been resolved.

However, the dates set were not kept. Therefore we can conclude that the Spanish Government created by the PSOE, which made a number of pledges to the Saharan people before coming to power, eventually adopted the same stance as those who signed the Madrid tripartite agreement. Moreover, that government does not have a stance of its own and has aligned with the policy of Morocco and France.

[Livet] Nevertheless, Mohamed Salem Uld Salek, secretary general to the President's Office, recently said: "We have witnessed an evolution of the Spanish stance in its policy on the Maghreb and especially with regard to the Spanish Sahara...."

[Abdelaziz] The Spanish Government has not yet taken any concrete steps. There are promises, but nothing more....

[Livet] Does that mean that you do not expect to establish official relations with the Felipe Gonzalez government in the near future?

[Abdelaziz] We are willing to examine all possibilities of improving our relations with Spain. The Polisario Front hopes to restore normal and solid relations with the Spanish people and their representatives. This is one of the constant factors of our foreign policy.

[Livet] Do you mean that there could be a modus vivendi with regard to the Spanish boats that fish in the waters of the Western Sahara?

[Abdelaziz] We have already expressed our willingness to examine this problem with the Spanish Government. We are willing to seek solutions. When innocent Spaniards die we greatly regret

it, but the responsibility for their deaths lies with the Spanish Government, which we have urged to shoulder its responsibilities.

[Livet] The Polisario Front recently rejected a proposal for joint action with the military wing of ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty]. What relations do you maintain with that organization?

[Abdelaziz] We have had no relations at all with the military wing of ETA hitherto. . . . This does not mean that it is impossible to contact that organization. But I emphasize that we have had no relations at all with ETA hitherto.

[Livet] "Txomin" Iturbe is said to be in Algeria. Has any Polisario Front member met with him?

[Abdelaziz] No.

[Livet] Do you fear a reduction of Algerian aid because of that country's economic crisis?

[Abdelaziz] You said that Boumediene's death spelled "the end of the Polisario Front," and you were wrong. You said that Libya was the chief supplier of the Polisario Front's funds, and you were wrong. You said that the meeting between the Moroccan king and Chadli Bendjedid would put an end to the problem, and you were wrong again. As for the meeting between King Hassan II and Peres, I hope that you will not follow the same reasoning, because it is erroneous and you will only succeed in exposing the region to a general conflict in which you Europeans would be relegated to a secondary position.

The Soviet Union and the United States will be the ones in charge.

[Livet] When you met with FLN second-in-command Mohamed Messadia in August you mentioned existing points of convergence between the two revolutions. What are they?

[Abdelaziz] Our analyses were similar with regard to establishing the Saharan people's right to national independence and also the need to create the Greater Maghreb on the basis of peace, cooperation, and equality among its six member countries. Last, with regard to the Hassan II-Peres meeting, destined to exacerbate the military escalation in the region, we expressed our disagreement with that trend.

[Livet] In February you said: "We will eventually sit down at the same table with Morocco to negotiate." What stage has been reached in this connection?

[Abdelaziz] UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and the OAU chairman have been conducting demarches since March in connection with the implementation of UN Resolution 40/50 and OAU Resolution 104. We have had contacts in this connection within the United Nations. Then Mr Perez de Cuellar met with the king of Morocco. As a result of that meeting the UN secretary general invited me to the UN Headquarters and I sent a plenipotentiary envoy.

Following these initial contacts the most prominent aspect of the Moroccan stance is intransigence and obstinacy: The king is willing to call a referendum only under Moroccan occupation.

[Livet] What are the prospects following the revocation of the Oujda Treaty?

[Abdelaziz] King Hassan II, who is waging an expansionist war against the Saharan people, believed that it would be an easy operation. He was not counting on the Polisario Front's armed struggle. He has attempted to accumulate the maximum possible financial support since then and to establish alliances to exterminate us.

In 1975 Hassan II, posing as defender of the "free world," said: "The Saharan people's struggle is simply an aspect of the communist struggle." Some years later he believed that our struggle was an extension of the crusade headed by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. By allying with him (in the August 1984 Oujda Treaty) his aim was to annihilate us. It has not prevented us from continuing our struggle.

Now, 2 years later, King Hassan II has realized that we are still here. This is what prompted him to organize the spectacular meeting with Shim'on Peres and the revocation of the treaty with Libya. This latest operation, like the Oujda accord, has one sole objective — to secure the maximum support to eliminate our people.

The message is addressed to Israel, the United States, and the Jewish lobby worldwide.

[Livet] What message is that?

[Abdelaziz] Hassan II's aim is to bring about a new military escalation in the region. He wants to secure the superpowers' greater involvement. The northeast African region is a sensitive area on Europe's southern border. As the link between the European Continent and Africa, it should be characterized by stability, within the context of a policy of nonalignment. The Polisario Front and the SDAR have striven to ensure that their struggle — in which decolonization is the issue at stake — is directed toward the Saharan people's liberation and to prevent other allied forces from intervening. Hassan II has exerted constant pressure for the internationalization of the conflict.

[Livet] You attended the celebrations marking the 17th anniversary of the Libyan revolution. Is it possible to talk in terms of a rapprochement between the Polisario Front and Libya? Does it mean that military supplies will be resumed?

[Abdelaziz] I cannot give you a categorical answer on the arms question. We have to choose: The Saharan people want this war to end and want fruitful cooperation to be established with our northern neighbor, the Kingdom of Morocco. If, however, they force a war on us, we will not bow our heads! So the resumption of Libyan aid depends on two things — on Morocco's position and on that of the countries supporting it.

SOMALIA

Defense Minister Hosts Italy's Spadolini

EA071636 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar, Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] first vice president and minister of defense, hosted a dinner last night at his home for Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini and his delegation. [passage omitted]

After the dinner, Challe Mohamed Ali Samantar and Giovanni Spadolini made speeches on the war and friendly relations and development of multifaceted cooperation between the SDR and Italy.

Challe Samantar that the deeply rooted relations between the two countries were based not on private interests but on the overall interests of the two countries and peoples. Challe Samantar added that Italy was cooperating with Somalia in security and defense in addition to Italy's assistance to Somalia in the economic and social fields. Challe Samantar thanked Italy for its tireless efforts to further develop its relations with Somalia. He praised Mr Spadolini in particular for the high profile he had assumed in cooperation between the countries and peoples. [passage omitted]

Mr Spadolini also said his visit would further strengthen the fruitful friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. He thanked Somalia for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation. [passage omitted]

TANZANIA

Nyerere Urges Continued Support for Mozambique

EA072138 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Mwalimu Nyerere, the chairman of the CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi, Tanzania's ruling party], said today that Tanzania would continue to assist the people of Mozambique in their war against the South African Boer regime to avoid the sharing of a common border between our country and the regime. Addressing CCM members at the (Malibindo) CCM branch office in Mbinga District, Mwalimu said Tanzania was doing everything possible to assist Mozambiquue to deny the Boers the possibility of setting up a puppet regime in that country.

Mwalimu said the people of Mozambique, fighting against the South African-backed MNR bandits, are not fighting for their country's territorial integrity alone, but also for that of Tanzania and Africa as a whole. He called on all the people of Tanzania to provide moral and material support for our brothers in Mozambique in their war against the Boers.

The residents of Mbinga District presented Mwalimu with 100,000 shillings to assist the people of Mozambique in the war. Mwalimu said that since Tanzania had helped the people of Mozambique to win their independence, they still had the capacity to assist them now that they had their own government until Boer aggression was defeated.

UGANDA

NRA Troops Storm Temple, Arrest Coup Suspects

EA080711 Nairobi THE DAILY NATION in English 8 Jan 87 p 14

[By Edward Kitaka]

[Excerpt] Kampala, Wednesday — A group of 12 men was arrested today and is being held at the central police station in Kampala on suspicion of plotting to topple the government of Mr Yoweri Museveni by force of arms, a police source said today.

The source said the 12 men were arrested on the grounds of the Bahai Temple at Kikaya, four miles northeast of Kampala and they held meetings disguised as prayer sessions. Residents of the suburbs, contacted today, confirmed the arrests, saying that the NRA [National Resistance Army] troops had raided the temple in two groups.

The first group came on Monday night and took position quietly all round the beautiful but generally deserted temple. The second group came on Tuesday morning, according to an old man who lives near the temple, and shooting started shortly after 11 a.m. The troops moved in systematically, surprising the "worshippers" and rounded them up.

Several of the suspects fled but the soldiers chased and arrested all of them except one or two, according to eyewitnesses. No one was injured. Unconfirmed reports say the suspects had maps showing strategic installations in Kampala and other documents.

Attempts to reach government authorities for comment were futile. [passage omitted]

More Arrests Expected

EA080717 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 8 Jan 87 p 1

[By Henry Gombya]

[Text] Kampala, Wednesday — The National Resistance Army (NRA) has arrested eight people allegedly planning to overthrow the government of president Yoweri Museveni. The eight were arrested last night at Kanyanya, four miles outside Kampala, on the Kampala-Gayaza road.

Highly reliable sources at the Ministry of Defence headquarters said for some weeks now, the Defence Ministry Intelligence Unit had been observing a group of misguided Ugandans hatching a plan to overthrow the one-year-old government of the National Resistance Movement (NRM). Sources at the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) headquarters, confirmed the arrests but declined to comment further.

The swoop to round up "the agitators" started, according to Defence Ministry sources, last evening when a number of people gathered at the Bahai House of Worship at Kanyanya on Gayaza road.

The sources added there was an exchange of fire as NRA soldiers moved in to arrest the group. "We captured only eight people. The rest escaped, but we are hot on their heels, no-one will escape this time," a senior commander said.

The Defence Ministry has declined to say anything about the affair, but a senior officer said they would soon come out with an official statement. "At the moment, we are carrying out more investigations and we hope to arrest more people soon. We cannot go on the air at the moment, otherwise we will be alerting those involved in this attempt who are still at large", an NRA office said.

Crowd Protests Religious Leader's Detention

EA072202 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Security personnel at the Police Central Station in Kampala were this evening forced to shoot in the air in an attempt to disperse the crowd of angry demonstrators who were demanding the release of one of the leaders of their religious sect. Nobody was hurt in the incident and by the time our crew left the scene of the incident, police and the NRA [National Resistance Army] personnel were talking to the leaders of the religious sect in an attempt to find an amicable solution.

Trouble started this evening when the police allegedly moved in and arrested Haji Chefa who was preaching illegally near the taxi park. His supporters then moved into the central police station and attempted to release him by force. Kampala City Council authorities have in the recent past issued warnings to people who hold illegal meetings, especially near the Kampala taxi park, to stop it or else they will face the law.

Briefs

Cultural Agreement With Cuba — An agreement embracing cultural and educational cooperation between Uganda and Cuba has been signed by the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Ibrahim Mukiibi, and the Cuban ambassador, Mr (Angelo Evans Nicholas). The agreement is to promote and strengthen cooperation between institutional, cultural, educational, artistic, literary and social organizations of both countries. Under the agreement, both countries will undertake cooperation in the fields of exchange of delegations in specialized fields of study and the encouragement of artistic groups, soloists, and other art [word indistinct] representatives. It also includes the exchange of texts and literary works, like magazines, newspapers, and publications. The contract is for a 5-year period with automatic renewal in successive 5-year periods. *[Text] [Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 6 Jan 87 EA]*

CHAD

French Planes Attack Libyan-Held Airstrip

AB071654 Paris AFP in French 1612 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Paris, 7 Dec (AFP) — The French air raid that took place midday today against the radar installations of the Ouadi Doum airstrip belonging to the Libyans in northern Chad was carried out by about 10 planes that have since returned to their bases at Ndjamena and Bangui in the CAR, reliable sources disclosed.

According to the same sources, the French Air Force did not release bombs but launched anti-radar missiles against its target to make it difficult for the Libyan Air Force to use the Ouadi Doum airstrip. The choice of this objective was made after a series of meetings between the Elysee, Hotel Matignon, and the Ministry of Defense. The source pointed out that the Air Force was careful not to hit civilians.

This French intervention follows the bombardment last Sunday [4 January] by the Libyans of Arada, south of the 16th Parallel. Sources close to the government in Paris said that today's action was a means of informing the Libyan Government that "the French authorities have in no way changed their minds since 16 March 1986 about preventing Libya from intervening south of the 16th Parallel."

The Ouadi Doum airstrip, which is situated 300 km north of Oum Chalouba, was built by the Libyans in 1985. It was bombarded by the French Air Force on 16 February, 1986 and destroyed by several airstrip destruction bombs as it was being used as a staging point for offensives against several government posts south of the 16th Parallel. In retaliation, a Libyan bomber had attacked Ndjamena airport shortly thereafter.

French Raid Called 'Disappointment'

AB071844 Paris AFP in French 1822 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 7 Jan (AFP) — Today's French air raid on the radar installations at Ouadi Doum inside Chadian territory has been received as a "great disappointment" by Chad, official circles in Ndjamena believe this evening.

In a statement to AFP, a Chadian political official who wished to remain anonymous stated that "a few bomblets dropped in the desert far from Ouadi Doum is like beating the air."

According to the official, who declined to confirm or deny that the raid really took place, "this action will change nothing" in the Chadian-Libyan conflict.

Libyan Planes Bomb Villages

AB071916 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Communique issued by Chadian National Armed Forces High Command on 7 January]

[Text] The savage Libyans are continuing their satanic action against the Chadian population. Just as they carried out an air raid on 4 January, MiG-23 planes of the Libyan Air Force bombarded the villages of Kouba and Olanga today at 1715 [1615 GMT].

Hunted down in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti regions by the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT], the Libyan aggressor forces are persistently carrying out cowardly attacks against the innocent civilian population. The FANT will never leave unpunished the barbaric acts committed by the Tripoli savage hordes against the Chadian civilian population.

France Watching 'Closely'

AU081021 Paris AFP in English 1015 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Paris, Jan 8 (AFP) — France Thursday played down the importance of a new Libyan air raid into southern Chad, but said it was studying the situation.

The raid Wednesday was reported to have come 90 minutes after a French air attack on a Libyan base in northern Chad, which was itself in retaliation for a previous Libyan incursion over the 16th parallel demarcation line last Sunday.

Denis Baudouin, spokesman for French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, said the second Libyan attack "did take place, and was quite minimal".

"France is carefully studying the timetable of this operation to see if it had been planned since the morning or whether it was a reply to the French riposte," Mr. Baudouin said.

He repeated that Paris did not wish to see an escalation of the situation in Chad, where forces of the French-backed government and former rebels are fighting in the north against Libyan forces and Tripoli's own Chadian allies.

But he warned, "We will continue to make graduated and firm ripostes" to Libyan actions south of the French-defended 16th parallel.

Mr. Baudouin said the Libyan raid Wednesday on the village of Kouba Oulanga could have been a defensive action by Tripoli, which is said to have suffered stinging defeats in the north.

But there was also the possibility that the Libyans "have other ideas and want to unleash attacks of quite a different nature."

France was analysing the situation "very closely", Mr. Baudouin said.

Further Materiel From France

AU071618 Paris AFP in English 1610 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Paris, Dec 7 (AFP) — [passage omitted]

Reliable sources in the French capital confirmed that some 30 military vehicles were loaded onto U.S. Air Force C-5 Galaxy transport planes in western France late Tuesday and were headed for Chad.

They also said more troops were about to leave France for Chad.

But French military officials said it was "absolutely out of the question to send more men" to join the French force in Chad, which is currently estimated at some 1,400 troops.

The sources said other flights by the giant planes, from an airbase at Nantes, had taken place in recent weeks.

GABON

New Cabinet Composition Announced 7 Jan

AB071646 Dakar PANA in French 1230 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Libreville, 7 Jan (AGP-GAB/PANA) — Leon Mebiame, who was reappointed prime minister by President Omar Bongo on 5 January, has set up with the president a new government which now comprises 4 deputy prime ministers, 8 ministers of state, 23 ministers, and 10 secretaries of state. The composition of the new government is as follows:

Prime minister and head of government
Leon Mebiane
First deputy prime minister, minister of transport, water and forest resources and social communication
George Rawiri (unchanged)
Second deputy prime minister, minister of mines, and hydrocarbons
Etienne Guy Mouvagha (unchanged)
Third deputy prime minister, minister of civil service and administrative reform
Emile Kassa-Mapsi (unchanged)
Fourth deputy prime minister, minister of housing and urban development
Simon Essimengane (previous president of the Supreme Court)
Minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation
Martin Bongo (unchanged)
Minister of state for domains, land registration, and responsible for the law of the sea
Henri Minko (unchanged)

Minister of state and secretary general of the presidency
Rene Radembino-Coniquet (unchanged)
Minister of state for higher education and scientific research
Jules Bourdes Ogouliguende (unchanged)
Minister of state for industry and consumption
Etienne Moussirou (unchanged)
Minister of state for territorial administration and local collectivities
Richard Nguema Bekale (unchanged)
Minister of state for commerce, transfer of technologies, and rationalization
Jean-Francois Ntoutoume Emane (unchanged)
Minister of state for culture, arts, and popular education
Francois Owono-Nguema (unchanged)
Minister of national defense, veterans' affairs, and public security
Julien Mpouho-Epigat (unchanged)
Minister of justice, and keeper of the seals
Mrs. Sophie Ngwamassana
Minister of information, posts, and telecommunications
Zacharie Myboto (unchanged)
Minister of finance, budget, and participations
Jean-Pierre Lemboumba-Lepandou (unchanged)
Minister of public works, equipment, construction, and territorial development
Jean-Boniface Assele
Minister of planning and economy
Pascal Nze (unchanged)
Minister of livestock, agriculture, and rural economy
Michel Anchouey (unchanged)
Minister of national education
Alexandre Sambat
Minister of labor, employment, and human resources
Louis Gaston Mayila (unchanged)
Minister of civil and commercial aviation
Michel Essongue (unchanged)
Minister of public health and population
Dr Jean-Pierre Okias (unchanged)
Minister of social affairs, natural calamities, and social security
Sylvestre Oyouomi (unchanged)
Minister of youth and sports
Victor Afene (unchanged) [as received]
Minister in charge of state control
Jean Emile Mbot (unchanged) [as received]
Minister of professional training and handicrafts

Jose Joseph Amiar-Nganga (unchanged)

Minister of energy and hydraulic
Divungi di Ndingue (unchanged)
Minister of small- and
medium-scale enterprises
Emmanuel Nze-Bekale (unchanged)
Minister of environment and
protection of nature
Herve Moutsinga (unchanged) [as received]
Minister of delegate to the
prime minister in charge of
merchant marine
Mathieu Nguema (unchanged) [name as received]
Minister delegate to the
first deputy prime minister in charge
of transport
Dr Paulin Obame Nguema
Minister delegate to the
second deputy prime minister in
charge of mines and hydrocarbons
Bonjean Francois Ondo
Minister delegate to the third
deputy prime minister in charge
of civil service and administrative reform
Antoine Mboumbou-Miyakou (unchanged)
Minister delegate to the
fourth deputy prime minister in
charge of habitation and housing
Guy Nzouba-Ndama (unchanged)
Secretary of state for
women's affairs and people's rights
Mrs Rose Rogombe (unchanged)

Secretary of state to the
minister of state for foreign
affairs and cooperation in charge
of cooperation
Honorine Dossou-Naki (unchanged)

Secretary of state to the
minister of state to the presidency
for research and coordinator of
security police
Samuel Mbaye (unchanged)

Secretary of state to the
minister of public works
Claude Damas Ozimo (unchanged)
Secretary of state to the
minister of social affairs
Mrs Pauline Nyingone (unchanged)
Secretary of state to the
minister of higher education
Paulin Nguema Obam (unchanged)
Secretary of state to the
minister of finance
Mrs Chantal Lidji-Badinga (new)
Secretary of state to the first
deputy prime minister in charge of
transport, water and forest
resources and social communication
Jean-Felix Obame (new)

Secretary of state to the
minister of agriculture

Daniel Afome-Nze (new)

RWANDA

Kigali: Uganda Border Security Talks Begin

EA071630 Kigali Domestic in French 0430 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The Rwanda-Uganda joint commission on security on the common border opened today. [passage omitted] Rwandan Interior Minister Habanabakize hailed the friendly and cooperative relations uniting Rwanda and Uganda. He stated that our two heads of state were guided by a common desire to strengthen good neighborliness, friendship, and bilateral cooperation at all levels. He talked about the purpose of the Ugandan internal affairs minister's visit.

[Begin Habanabakize recording] Your visit to our country will allow us once more to reaffirm our common desire to fight against anything which compromises our relations of good neighborliness, friendship, brotherhood, and cooperation. In this context, Rwanda is satisfied with the position [word indistinct] of the Ugandan Government and its understanding of the problem of Rwandan refugees living in Uganda. Mr Minister, I assure you that on the Rwandan side, the government is determined to fight relentlessly against anything that endangers peace and tranquility on our border. Therefore, it would be better if relevant services could consult each other and exchange information regularly on measures to be taken, as they have in the past, so our people on the common border may live in peace. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Paul Ssemogerere said that he and his counterpart, Habanabakize, would examine the problem of Rwandan refugees in Kampala who were attempting to undermine security.

On the question of Ugandan soldiers who penetrated into Rwandan territory and disturbed people near the border, the Ugandan internal affairs minister said that they had been arrested and were being tried for their bad behavior. The Rwandan minister of interior also defined Rwandan policy on international problems such as apartheid, imperialism, and injustice. [passage omitted]

ZAIRE

Officials Deny Sending Troops to Chad

AB071723 Paris AFP in French 1551 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 7 Jan (AFP) — The Zairian military authorities today denied the presence in Chad of Zairian soldiers as reported by the Libyan press, but do not hide their determination to provide military aid to Chad, especially in the form of training for Chadian soldiers. "Each time Zaire has to respond to the call of the Chadian Government for the provision of military aid in the field, it has always done so in broad daylight after widely informing the national and international community," the offi-

cial Zairian news agency AZAP reported today in response to a report carried by the Libyan press agency JANA announcing the presence of elements from the Zairian Army in Chad. In the communique broadcast by AZAP, Kinshasa further states that "since Zaire has nothing to hide from anyone it has not adopted the bad habit of playing hide-and-seek." However, it was learned in the Zairian capital from an authoritative military source that at the request of the Chadian Government, two Chadian commando battalions trained in Zaire have just been made available to the Ndjamena authorities after completing their training period. From the same source, it was learned that preparations are under way to receive in Zaire a third battalion that will undergo the same type of training. Chad's objective is to set up an entire commando brigade.

Chadian Envoy Meets Kengo

AB071512 Dakar PANA in French 1339 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 7 Jan (AZAP/PANA) — "Cooperation between Kinshasa and Ndjamena is on a sound footing, just like the excellent relations existing between the two countries and between their heads of state," said Chadian Ambassador to Zaire Maitine Djoumbe on 6 January in an AZAP interview following the farewell visit he paid on Kengo Wa Dondo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation. Mr Djoumbe is at the end of a 4-year diplomatic mission to Zaire.

In response to a question put to him by the press, the Chadian diplomat pointed out that "all possible efforts were being made to strengthen this cooperation." The Chadian diplomat also added that he took the opportunity during the meeting to thank the head of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the help and support he received from the Zairian authorities and people during his stay.

Among the issues discussed at the meeting between Mr Kengo and Mr Djoumbe was the current situation in Chad, which is characterized by clashes in the northern part of the country. In fact, the Chadian diplomat said the commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation assured him of the help and support of the Executive Council of Zaire and all Zairian people.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Addresses Diplomats 6 Jan

MB071600 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Speech by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to the diplomatic corps in Luanda on 6 January — recorded]

[Text] Your excellencies, heads of diplomatic missions, ladies, gentlemen, and comrades: I would like to express my thanks for the New Year greetings by your excellencies, heads of diplomatic missions and wives, and I would like also to express my appreciation for the cordial and kind words that the doyen of the diplomatic corps directed on your behalf to the Angolan people, to the government of the People's Republic of Angola, and to myself. I want on this occasion to wish you all a happy and prosperous new year and success in the attainment of the tasks entrusted upon you by the governments and institutions that you represent in the People's Republic of Angola. It is with great satisfaction that we note the level of relations existing between our governments is good and that our governments wish to strengthen the ties of cooperation and friendship in favor of peace and development in our countries. This is an acknowledgment of the fairness of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Angola, which is based on the principles of mutual respect, [words indistinct], mutual advantages, and nonalignment.

Despite the coherent implementation of these principles, some countries hostile to the Angolan Government continue to carry out a policy of disrespect and interference in our internal affairs. They even want to dictate what our people should and should not do. This is true of racist South Africa and the Ronald Reagan administration, which provide military, financial, political, and diplomatic support to the UNITA armed bands in order to destabilize the People's Republic of Angola and thus to force the integration of this puppet group into the Angolan Government.

Against this warlike and aggressive policy we have pursued a policy of peace in defense of independence and national sovereignty. We have characterized this issue as a regional conflict because, in fact, Angola is a country threatened and invaded by racist South Africa and its allies. UNITA is a destabilization instrument. Together with South Africa and under its orders, it commits odious crimes against our people.

The relations between states should be ruled by norms and principles of international law. Based on these principles, we conduct bilateral relations with our partners in a climate of peace and openeness. The political positions of the People's Republic of Angola on the serious issues that concern mankind are well known.

Your excellencies are witness of the efforts of the Angolan Government to develop better friendship and cooperation with all countries, even with those that commit hostile actions against our people. You are also witness to the wish of the Angolan Government to contribute to the establishment of just relations between states and peoples who favor peace, understanding among nations, and human progress. We think that the easing of international tension and peaceful coexistence are indispensable conditions for world peace. I am glad to note that last year important steps were taken toward the improvement of international relations. The Reykjavik summit showed that the dialogue and cooperation between the great powers are important instruments to achieve peace when used with coherence and candor. Thus, we support all [words indistinct] deep understanding between the superpowers. It is up to the international community to [word indisitnct]and make every effort toward establishing a solid basis for universal and lasting peace. In this context, we cannot remain indifferent to the dangers of the attempted militarization of space, due to the great and (?costly) efforts that are made in order to attain objectives [words indistinct].

It is also obvious that growing involvement of foreign interests in the peoples' struggle for peace, independence, and freedom, resulting in the conflicts that proliferate in various parts of the globe, does not favor the easing of the current international situation. We have been preoccupied with a number of illegal procedures, some of which are very recent. They contribute to the exacerbation of pockets of tension, especially in Central America and in southern Africa, as a result of international imperialism's inconsistent and contradictory policies. Countries like Angola, Nicaragua, and many others are directly suffering the effects of that policy of interference and disdain for the most elementary rules of international law.

As you aware, the situation in southern Africa is characterized by the racist South Africa regime's increased aggressiveness. The Frontline States are the constant targets of threats and armed incursions by the South African Army. In its attempt to survive its current political and social crisis, the Pretoria government introduced the state of emergency, which it uses to kill indiscriminately all those who oppose this regime. The armed bandits, who were created by racist South Africa to destabilize neiboring countries, have been the object of unusual political treatment recently. Alternative solutions are being planned to guarantee the survival of these bandits, due to the racist Pretoria regime's imminent collapse. It is in this context that we see a change of tactics in the actions of the armed bandits and unprecented activity by racist South Africa. Thus, we must denounce yet again the continued illegal occupation of Namibia, where racist South Africa concentrates enormous quantities of war materiel, and from where it launches major attacks against the territory of the People's Republic of Angola. We will continue to make efforts toward the implementation of pertinent UN resolutions on the liberation of the Namibian people and the eradication of apartheid.

We believe that the countries and institutions which your excellencies are representing here will (?support) with renewed vigor the demands of the Frontline States and the African community at large to establish a climate of peace and harmony in southern Africa, which would undoubtedly be a guarantee that we would cooperate in a more fruitful and advantageous manner. We will also know how to solve our internal problems and find solutions that will serve our country's interests.

Our policy of national reconciliation, which is based on freely chosen principles of justice and seeks to give an opportunity to

all those who were misled to join in the life of the nation, will continue. This generous action by our people has produced excellent results, and we are certain that it will continue to bear fruit. Those who persist in their hostility against us and do not respect our sovereignty are making a grave historical error. They are acting against the strict position taken by the international community in general and the African community in particular. Their destabilizing action will not make us change our position. The Angolan people's gains since independence show their defense of the principles on which our action is based. Our people are aware that their present problems arise from causes which are historically well defined. None of them [words indisitnct] of the Angolan people. Colonial domination, which lasted a number of centuries, left [words indistinct] on the war that is being waged against us; and it created and is creating other (?problems). But the truth is that we are sure that our struggle is just and will ultimately bring about the resolution of our people's problems.

I would like to express the hope that 1987 will be a year of understanding and realism, that it may bring greater happiness to all, escpecially to those who [words indistinct] through friendship, cooperation, and understanding among the peoples.

Thank you. [applause]

UNITA Claims Diamond Facilities Destroyed

AU071415 Paris AFP in English 1410 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Paris, Jan 7 (AFP) — Guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) have destroyed diamond- mining facilities in the north-east of the country, putting a local garrison to flight and capturing two soldiers, according to a UNITA statement received here on Wednesday.

The statement was signed by Demostenes Chilingutila, [spelling as received] described as UNITA's military "chief of staff". It said the attack took place on January 1 at Cossa, not far from the border with Zaire and near the town of Andrade.

UNITA said "a large quantity" of diamonds had been seized during the attack. The rebel group, which is supported both by South Africa and the United States, is known to receive a substantial proportion of its funds from the sale of diamonds seized, or produced under its control, in north-eastern Angola.

Wednesday's statement also said that UNITA forces had killed 11 government soldiers in the ambush of a supply column in Zaire province, in the north-west of the country. It did not give the date of that attack.

BOTSWANA

Bophuthatswana Railway, Immigration Talks Fail

MB071439 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communication says the takeover by Botswana of the railway services form the National Railways of Zimbabwe was postponed indefinitely last month due to inconclusive negotiations between Botswana and Bophuthatswana on general immigaration and railway matters.

A statement from the ministry says, although all relevent agreements have been finalized and ready for signature, Bophuthatswana and South Africa notified Botswana in December that her trains and crew would not be allowed entry at Ramatlabama unless an agreement on general, immigration, and railway matters was signed by 31 December 1986. However, negotiations between Botswana and Bophuthatswana, which started immediately, could not be concluded by 31 December, resulting in the indefinite postponement of the takeover.

The statement from the ministry says under present arrangements, the National Railways of Zimbabwe [NRZ] has a commercial agreement with the South African Transport Services for providing a train service between Ramatlabama and Mafikeng. Under these arrangements, says the statement, the NRZ (?deals) with Bophuthatswana authorities only in respect of immigration formalities for the crew in order to facilitate their entry into Ramatlabama without the production of travel documents.

The statement says agreements for the takeover were modeled on the present arrangements between Zimbabwe and the South African Transport Services.

ID Cards To Be Issued to Citizens, Residents

MB071444 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] All Botswana citizens aged 16 and above will be issued with national identity cards during the 1987-1988 financial year which begins in April this year. A planning officer in the Ministry of Labor and Home Affairs, Mr Bobo Tana, told BOPA yesterday that noncitizens resident in Botswana qould be required to have identity cards depending on their length of stay.

Mr Bobo Tana also said the whole operation of issuing identity cards would cost the government a total of 3 million pula.

LESOTHO

Court Protects Jonathan's Firearms License

MB080728 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0654 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Maseru Jan 8 SAPA — Lesotho's high court has granted a temporary interdict restraining police from seizing firearms and ammunition from former Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan.

Acting chief justice, Mr Justice Joseph Kheola, granted a rule nisi as a temporary interdict restraining Lesotho's commissioner of police, Major General James Dingiswayo, from seizing nine firearms and nine hundred rounds of ammunition from Chief Jonathan. The firearms include one light AK-47 machine gun. The high court called upon Gen Dingiswayo to show cause on

January 19 why he should not renew Chief Jonathan's firearms licence.

In papers before the court the Chief said he received a letter dated November 26 1986 from the commissioner of police requesting that he should surrender his firearms licence within 21 days failing which he would be liable for prosecution. Chief Jonathan said he believed the reason for being asked to surrender his firearms licence was to alter certain conditions upon which he holds the firearms. He had earlier attempted to renew his firearms licence at Leribe where he was informed that police headquarters in Maseru had said the licence had been revoked.

Chief Jonathan said since his Basotho National Party was defused members of his party had been victims of all kinds of harrassment. He referred to the deaths last year of two of his former ministers, Mr Desmond Sixeshe and Mr Vincent Makhele and their wives, who were killed "mysteriously and cold bloodedly."

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Reports Success Against Zambezian MNR

MB071818 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The military situation in Nicuadala District, Zambezia Province, is returning to normal following mopping-up and search-and-destroy operations mounted by FPLM forces in recent weeks against armed bandits. According to AIM, 40 armed bandits were killed during the operations and a number of their hideouts destroyed. Dozens of peasants who were forced to live with the criminals were freed and handed to party structures to receive assistance and be reintegrated into society.

Red Cross Says 38 Expatriates Still Missing

MB071526 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1423 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Harare Jan 7 SAPA — At least 38 expatriates are still missing in Mozambique despite the release, just before Christmas, of 65 hostages held by the rebel MNR, the head of the southern Africa mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Mr Ulrich Bedert, said in Harare today.

"We will try our best to continue to be a mutual intermediary, for humanitarian reasons, to all parties involved until there are indications of the whereabouts of these people," he told the semi-official ZIANA news agency in an interview. [passage omitted]

Cooperation Discussed With GDR Justice Minister

LD072257 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1722 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Maputo, 7 Jan (ADN) — The justice ministers of the GDR and Mozambique began talks in Maputo on Wednesday on future cooperation between the two countries' judiciaries. Hans-Joachim Heusinger, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and GDR justice minister, arrived in Maputo on the same day at the invitation of the Mozambican Justice Minister Ossumane Ali Dauto.

NAMIBIA

SWATF Head Warns of Angolan Arms Buildup

MB080610 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] The outgoing chief of the SWATF, Major General George Meiring, says a conventional arms buildup in Angola could escalate conflict between South Africa and Angola. Gen Meiring said in an interview in Windhoek that it was only a matter of time before Angola's buildup of conventional arms and forces boosted its self-confidence to the extent where it felt it could take on South African security forces in South-West Africa.

Gen Meiring said Angola had developed an extensive military air cover system. Its radar network now covered northern South-West Africa, and he believed Angolan pilots could now be prepared to take on South African aircraft. Angola's air defense system comprised virtually the entire range of Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles including the sophisticated SAM-8 and SAM-6 tracker systems. The air defense system extended to less than 300 km from the South-West African border.

Gen Meiring said this was not only a conventional threat to South Africa but also a terrorist threat as SWAPO had bases in Angola and also used Angolan military transport and logistics.

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF Officer Held by Angola in 'Good Health'

MB071528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The SADF officer who is being held by Angola, Captain Wynand du Toit, is in good health and high spirits. This was revealed at Jan Smuts Airport by his wife, Mrs Louwna du Toit, who was speaking to newsmen on her return from a 10-day visit to Luanda where she was allowed to see her husband twice and to take him gifts, letters, reading matter, and a typewriter. Her visit was arranged by the South African Government, the Angolan Government, and the International Red Cross.

Mrs Du Toit said that her husband's morale was high but there had been no news of his possible release from prison. She said that he had been greatly encouraged by the support he was receiving from everyone in South Africa.

ANC Claims 'Evidence' of RSA Attack Plans

MB080650 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] The ANC is bracing itself for a military attack by South Africa as the organization celebrates its 75th birthday. Howard Barrell reports from Harare.

[Barrell] The ANC external mission says it has what it terms concrete evidence of plans to attack it and other South African refugees over the period of its 75th anniversary this week. ANC sources have declined to disclose the evidence they say they have or the countermeasures they have taken, but security, certainly in Lusaka where the ANC has its exiled headquarters, has been noticeably tightened for today's anniversary celebrations. ANC President Oliver Tambo is due to address a public meeting in Lusaka in a few hours together with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. Tambo will then hold a press conference for which an estimated 65 journalists have flown into the Zambian capital. Tonight the ANC singers, dancers, and musicians are to stage a cultural performance.

Call for Police, Army Mutiny

MB080620 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has urged the police and the army in South Africa to refuse taking orders from the Pretoria regime and to turn their weapons against the authorities in that country. The liberation movement's chief representative in Zimbabwe, Comrade Reddy Mazimba, made the call when he spoke on the eve of the 75th anniversary of the ANC. Comrade Mazimba says the racist army insubordiantion will bring about the quick disintegration of South Africa's policy of racial segregation. He said victory was certain because of the [words indistinct] inside South Africa and support by the international community.

Socialist Support Praised

MB080737 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Today is the 75th birthday of the African National Congress, ANC, revolutionary vanguard of the oppressed South African people, victims of the odious and anachronistic apartheid system. In the context of political activities marking this day, Stephen Dlamini, chairman of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, SACTU, at a Luanda press conference yesterday, analyzed new prospects of the South African people's struggle against apartheid. Stephen Dlamini condemned the support provided to the Pretoria regime by some Western countries which want to control, through South Africa, all the changes in the southern African situation past, present, and future. Dlamini, a member of the ANC executive committee, said that this will not weaken the determination of the oppressed South African people to fight until the elimination of apartheid at a time when the government of white minority has lost political control over the overwhelming majority of the South African people. Stephen Dlamini thanked the countries within the socialist community, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Frontline States for aid rendered, allowing the continuation of the struggle by the South African people against the criminal apartheid system.

UDF Calls for ANC Unbanning on Anniversary

MB081058 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1036 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 8 SAPA — The United Democratic Front today reiterated its call for the unbanning of the African National Congress — on the 75th anniversary of the ANC. In a statement to SAPA today the UDF said it knew that he South African Government considered it to be a front for the ANC "but that is a problem of the state and not ours." The UDF's recognition of the anniversary is "nothing more than a recognition of a milestone in our people's long history of resistance against white domination."

The statement said the government will soon have to come to terms with the fact that there can be no solution of this country's problems without the active participation of the ANC. "The UDF, like all South Africans black and white, knows that the ANC cherishes peace as all patriots do. The extent to which peace shall remain elusive will depend on the extent to which this white government will refuse to change and try and hold onto its historically dead white supremacy ideology," the statement said.

The UDF has taken out advertisements in most of the country's major newspapers calling for the unbanning of the ANC and is to distribute stickers nationwide as well, it added.

Commentary Sees ANC, SWAPO 'In Reverse Gear'

MB080724 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Station commentary: "The Sagging Fortunes of SWAPO and the ANC"]

[Text] SWAPO has turned its back on democracy and seeks to gain control of South-West Africa/Namibia through planting of mines and other acts of terror in which men and women, black and white, are killed indiscriminately. The ANC has also turned its back on democracy and also uses similar tactics in its effort to seize political power in South Africa. These two organizations, SWAPO and the ANC, also have something else in common. Both their campaigns are in reverse gear. The reason for this is common to both cases. In South-West Africa/Namibia SWAPO does not enjoy the support of the ordinary people, and in South Africa there is no place in the hearts and minds of the people for the ANC revolutionaries.

Statistics released this week show that SWAPO lost 8 percent more personnel last year in confrontations with counterinsurgency forces in South-West Africa/Namibia than in 1985. The level of SWAPO activities last year was the lowest since 1983.

[Word indistinct] the ANC, of the terrorists who last year infiltrated South Africa from neighboring states, more than 160 were killed or captured by security forces. ANC plans for a massive

terror campaign over the Christmas holiday period ended in failure. In South Africa during the whole of last year ANC terrorists claimed only five lives, a small number in comparison with many other countries around the world where terrorism occurs. Since July last year there has been a progressive decline in the number of terrorist incidents that the ANC has been able to perpetrate.

A particularly high percentage of those responsible for terrorism last year were either killed or captured, but the numbers of ANC agents able to infiltrate South Africa has been drastically reduced because of cooperation between the SA authorities and neighboring states. This has been seen once again with the reported expulsion by Mozambique of six senior members of the ANC, including the organization's chief representative in Maputo. In recent years literally hundreds of ANC agents have been expelled from Mozambique and hundreds have been thrown out of Swaziland. More recently Lesotho has taken steps to curb the activities of political dissidents from South Africa. These countries, like South Africa, accept that cross-border insurgency can only lead to the destabilization of southern Africa as a whole and that stability and progress can only be achieved through good-neighborliness.

Commentary Contrasts ANC Claims, Achievements

MB080526 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] In London and Lusaka today leadership groups of the ANC will be holding public relations conferences to mark the organization's 75th year. Their purpose will be to celebrate progress — at a time when the obligation on the ANC to resolve the moral contradiction in its policies has grown spectacularly. Ironically it is precisely to the degree that the ANC claims progress as a political force that its commitment to violence as a political instrument becomes increasingly suspect. Its rejection of peaceful alternatives to a strategy of violence for achieving power has been pushed to the fore by its own pretensions.

As it reviews its situation this year the ANC can undoubtedly congratulate itself on having made progress on the international diplomatic front. In a period when political unrest in South Africa was escalating and the revolutionary hand in it becoming more obvious, many Western observers began to examine new scenarios for the country's future. The view that revolutionary change had become realistic possibility was seized upon by politicians who by inclination were more than receptive to such an outcome and gained ground even in some government circles. The opportunist reassessment in the West of the ANC as a possible winner followed automatically.

Hence the more friendly attitude adopted towards the ANC by various Western governments. In that sphere, therefore, the movement can rightly boast of its progress. But democratic Western governments have also created for themselves the dilemma of reconciling a friendly policy with the ANC'S commitment to violence as a valid political strategy. To that extent they have had to be more insistent in trying to obtain a policy change from the ANC itself.

Diplomatic status is significant. What is decisive, however, is the reality of power, and it is especially in that sphere that the ANC leadership now finds itself being forced towards acknowledgement of the contradiction between its claims and its methods. For in South Africa itself its operations do not even begin to give credibility to its goal of achieving power through revolution. Indeed, in recent months there has been a substantial decline in the incidence of ANC-sponsored terrorism and other forms of political violence. Efforts to make black areas ungovernable through a campaign of intimidation have been smashed.

As the state has responded to the challenge from the ANC by strengthening security measures, so the hollowness of the challenge has been exposed. Over the ANC's pretensions to being a revolutionary movement in sight of achieving power has emerged the reality of a body whose political horizons are defined — and limited — buy its terrorist methods. If its leaders hope ever to move it genuinely out of that category they will have to start working at making the facts coincide with their rhetoric.

PFP, NRP Cape Leaders Agree on Alliance

MB072052 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2044 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] London, Jan 7, SAPA — Agreement to form an alliance was reached between the Cape leaders of the Progressive Federal Party and the New Republic Party here today. After almost three hours of talks, the Cape leader of the PFP, Mr Roger Hulley, and the Cape leader of the NRP, Mr Pat Rogers, shook hands on an alliance that could ensure the survival of the PFP as the official opposition after the forthcoming elections. Directly after the talks the two Cape leaders agreed that there had been "constructive straight-talking" on both sides, but said the result was "most successful."

Mr Helley said the agreement should not be seen as a temporary arrangement or "pact" but something "far more profound" based on the fact that, as co-signatories to the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba, the two parties now shared the same principles. Mr Hulley said detailed discussions on the division of seats and nominations had also taken place but no details could be disclosed until the end of January, when the agreement would be ratified at federal executive level.

Mr Rogers said the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba had been the beginning of the movement towards an alliance with the PFP. "I see this alliance as the beginning of a process that will lead to a new government in the future. We believe this alliance can offer this country a clear, non-racial democratic choice rather than the race-based politics of the National Party, the Conservative Party or the Herstigte Nasionale Party [Reformed National Party]."

According to Mr Hulley, the alliance would be marketed under a banner still to be decided on without either party losing its identity. "The parties will still be separate legal entities," he said.

Mr Rogers said the object would be to build a party of essentially stable and moderate people to get the country out of its self-made problems and the economic disaster resulting from national party government. The alliance could result in a drive by the combined PFP-NRP parties to recapture parts of the Cape Platteland and seats formerly held by the United Party. National Party seats earmarked for a possible "alliance" attack include Helderberg, Durbanville, Paarl, Swellendam, Caledon, Vasco, Queenstown, Aliwal North, Cradock, George, Kemberly South, Kimberly north and Malmesbury. The two formerly "safe" opposition seats in East London were lost to the National Party in 1981 as a result of a split vote between the PFP and the NRP.

In Durban, however, the leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Bill Sutton, dampened speculation about a pact between the NRP and PFP. He was reported as saying tonight that it was too early to talk of a merger or pact between the two parties and he did not want to pre-judge his talks with leader of the PFP, Mr Colin Eglin, later this week.

Asked to comment on Mr Sutton's remarks, Mr Rogers said tonight he had not yet informed Mr Sutton of the agreement reached with Mr Hulley.

HNP Leader Considers Unity With CP, AWB

MB081052 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Interview with HNP leader Jaap Marais by Andre le Roux on the "Network" program; introduced by Freek Robinson — live]

[Excerpts] [Robinson] The HNP and the CP are engaged in a conflict on whether they should cooperate and on what basis. After several meetings ended in failure, the CP decided to hold a conference on 24 January to discuss unity between the two parties. The HNP, however, has decided to nominate its own candidates for the general elections. Our political correspondent, Andre le Roux, is on microwave link-up from Cape Town with Mr Jaap Marais, the HNP leader, in Pretoria.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, may we begin — for the viewers benefit, would clarify the political differences betweeen your party and the CP?

[Marais] Naturally there is a great deal of common ground between us because we are both working against the government. The choice of an opponent or foe in politics is a decision which determines your allies. We are on the right and in our struggle there is commonality, but there are a few differences. There are differences concerning the language policy, the constitutional future of Indians, our approach towards the AWB — the CP allows AWB membership. [passage omitted]

[Le Roux] Is cooperation with the CP impossible?

[Marais] I do not think cooperation is impossible because I think we can find a formula to handle the matter. [passage omitted]

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, is the CP to the left of you?

[Marais] Yes, definitely. I think there are certain degrees of right or left, and I think in terms of rightist, degrees we are a little more to the right than the CP.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, if the CP is to your left in right-wing politics, does it not make cooperation between you and the CP impossible?

[Marais] No. I think we can cooperate and in the cooperation which must follow the debate taking place internally must move to the one or other side, and the HNP's view is very clear. We stand where the National Party stood when it was strong and consolidated in principle, and I think that is the principle that will eventually be accepted by the CP and others who are still in the NP. [passage omitted]

[Le Roux] Mr Mrais, you are against the AWB. What is the problem?

[Marais] The AWB is a registered political party, and our view is that if the AWB should operate openly as a political party then we can reach an understanding with it. My own view is, and I hope it will be discussed at the executive committee's meeting on Saturday, that if the AWB is prepared to operate openly as a political party we could reach an election understanding with it. We would be prepared to accept its leadership in order to utilize the maximum consolidation of right-wing forces in the election.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, the CP's conference at the end of the month — you are against participation? Why?

[Marais] Well, originally the aim of that conference was to establish one party. The CP abandoned this concept when the HNP said that it was a totally a unilateral action mounted by the CP and that it could not be a conference of unity. It will be impossible to amalgamate two parties in so short a time before the election. Second, after we said that we could not participate, the CP changed the whole nature of the conference by saying that they expected that the HNP would not participate. They are going ahead to isolate the HNP leadership from its followers. At this stage it is an unfriendly act mounted against the HNP, and as a result we will have nothing to do with the conference.

[Le Roux] Would you say the CP wants to neutralize you personally?

[Marais] Well, not just me, but when you attack the leadership of a party to isolate it then you attack the party as well.

[Le Roux] Are you sure about your support?

[Marais] Yes, the HNP has been tested many times. We as a party are very established, and I have no doubts about the support we enjoy.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, you are accusing the CP of hostility. What are the chances of reaching an agreement?

[Marais] The present situation is such that I think it would be foolish of any party not to reach an cooperation agreement. In

South Africa governments were defeated in election twice. In 1924 and 1948, in both cases, it was not a single party which defeated the government; it was cooperation between two parties.

[Le Roux] Are you going to field candidates against the CP?

[Marais] If there is no cooperation agreement it would be necessary to field our own candidates.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, where do you stand in your struggle with the government?

[Marais] We are going to fight the government on issues such as its unsuccessful foreign policy, the chaotic economic situation, and the failure of its constitutional policy.

[Le Roux] Mr Marais, many thanks.

Homeless Soweto Squatters Allowed To Return

MB071826 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1549 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text0) Johannesburg Jan 7 SAPA — The chairman of the Soweto Housing Committee said today squatters whose shacks had been bulldozed yesterday could return whenever they wanted — until alternative accomodation could be found at an emergency camp.

Mr Juliuis Mdlalose, addressing about 50 shack dwellers at the Soweto civic centre today, said: "Those people (whose shacks were demolished) will be housed at the Dlamini emergency camp in February." He added people could return to the squatter area "until they can be housed at the emergency camp in Dlamini."

About 350 shacks in Mofolo, an area in Soweto where there is a golf course, were demolished by the Soweto City Council yesterday, although accounts of what actually happened and how many people were affected vary.

The former mayor of Soweto, Mr E.T. Tshabalala, had allowed squatters to build shacks on the Soweto golf course. He had initially allowed only 400 shacks to be built, but the number since early last year had grown to 2017. Because of the minimal essential services at the site, it was decided by the council last month not to allow any more shacks to be built after December 16.

Mr Mdlalose said the council had decided to demolish the 350 shacks yesterday because they were not "numbered," and the golf course could not accomodate them. Mr Mdlalose said the council had subsequently decided to allow the squatters to return to the golf course "because we have now seen that it is rainy days, and people have to accomodation and we have a soft heart for the people of Soweto".

Police Capture Suspect in Murder of Officers

MB071850 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1405 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 7 SAPA — A man has been arrested in connection with the murder in Wiepe, northern Transvaal, of police W/O T.J. Gerber and Sgt J.M. Nel and the escape of a suspected terrorist on December 26, the minister of law and order, Mr A. Vlok, said in a statement today.

He said a black man was arrested and police also seized an AK-47 rifle and a quantity of ammunition.

During the investigation the police, assisted by other units of the security forces, received exceptional cooperation from all members of the public, Mr Vlok said.

Violence at Factory Injures UWUSA Memebrs

MB051446 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1441 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 5, SAPA — At least six people were injured as violence flared at the Jabula Foods plant in Springs today as dismissed workers returned after an arbitration ruling, the United Workers Union of South Africa [UWUSA] and Jabula said today.

UWUSA said five members reported for duty this morning and four of them together with other union members were attacked and "grievous bodily harm was inflicted on six of them" resulting in their being admitted to the far East Rand Hospital.

"Management maintained that they expected violence to take place if UWUSA members were reinstated," the UWUSA statement said.

A spokesman for Jabula Foods, Mr J.W. Vorster, confirmed that there had been an outbreak of violence at the plant today but would not comment further, saying the incident was being investigated.

OK Bazaars Strike Continues; More Arrests

MB071834 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1348 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Durban Jan 7 SAPA — The wage strike at OK Bazaars entered its nineteenth day today with the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union [CCAWUSA] claiming management had begun a new round of "pressure and intimidation".

Union officials said 92 strikers had been arrested yesterday, 119 workers dismissed and two shop stewards detained while management at various branches handed out empty pay slips to strikers on the grounds that deductions for days on strike and staff purchases had depleted their wages.

"We believe that the coordination of increased police harassment at the same time as paying workers with empty pay packets was

a very deliberate management plan," Mr Jay Naidoo, CCAWUSA organiser in Natal, said.

Officials said one shop steward was detained yesterday at OK's Mark Park Branch in Vereeniging and another at a store in Durban north. Police arrested 18 strikers in Klerksdorp and another 74 at the OK store in Alberton. The dismissal of 117 workers from the silverton store in Pretoria for "fighting with casuals" brings the total number of workers to over 700, Mr Naidoo said.

He said the union plans to broaden the dispute and held talks with other unions affiliated to COSATU in Johannesburg yesterday to discuss this, Mr Naidoo said. "COSATU has committed itself to giving full practical support to OK workers and has already begun discussing the issue of solidarity action among other COSATU affiliates."

An OK Bazaars spokesman was not immediately available for comment.

COSATU Letter Supports Strike

MB081013 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1008 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 8, SAPA — The three-week-old strike dispute between the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union [CCAWUSA] and OK Bazaars has entered a new phase with the direct intervention of the largest umbrella trade union in South Africa, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU)

COSATU — which has a membership of about 750,000 — in an open letter to the management of OK, called on them to negotiate in "good faith" or face community and union pressure.

Thousands of CCAWUSA members at OK have been on a countrywide strike since mid-December demanding a minimum monthly wage of R450, an across-the-board rise of R160 and increased staff discount benefits. They are also demanding workers on maternity leave to benefit from pay increments granted to others.

Group personnel manager of OK, Mr Keith Hartshorne, said today the letter from COSATU had not been received by them. He said they had only heard about it through the press. He further accused COSATU of "political rheotoric" and said OK was not prepared to respond to statements "filled with innacuracies."

In the open letter yesterday, COSATU general secretary, Mr Jay Naidoo, said the OK demand was "legitimate in the light of the levels of poverty millions of black people have been forced to live under for decades."

Mr Naidoo said COSATU viewed the "harassment, victimisation, assault and even dismissal" of strikers as a "gross violation" of workers's rights to withhold their labour. "The use of apartheid legislation and organs of the apartheid state to attack workers and undermine their bargaining power is flagrantly hypocritical in view of your stated anti-apartheid position and your projected public image of being an enlightened employer," Mr Naidoo said.

Mr Hartshorne said this morning the "open letter" had been sent to everyone "except ourselves and therefore we do not see this as a serious attempt to resolve the dispute. We must state that the solution to this problem lies in constructive decisions and we remain open to any serious negotiations with with CCAWUSA. We are not going to respond to COSATU's allegations, despite their innacuracies," Mr Harthorne said.

The press officer of COSATU, Mr Frank Meintjies, said this morning the open letter had been sent to OK yesterday and that Mr Hartshorne had confirmed today he had received it.

He said he had spoken to Mr Harthorne and expresse the wish that OK receive the letter before anyone else.

Mr Meintjies said: "The demands being made should be seen in a political light by an upset community. CCAWUSA has gone to great trouble in this strike, based on scientific research, for OK to respect the workers and to negotiate with the union. They are all too eager to call in the police to deny the basic rights of workers. If this is the way the capitalists are going to behave, then why are people wondering why workers are turning to socialism?" Mr Meintjies asked.

In his letter, Mr Naidoo said: "We urge you (OK) to negotiate in good faith with CCAWUSA to bring to a speedy conclusion the present deadlock. COSATU feels obliged to throw its weight behind the struggle of the OK workers (and) will, together with CCAWUSA, be canvassing support of our community and of fraternal organisations."

Natal Faction Fighting Claims Four Lives

MB051954 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] There has been an outbreak of faction fighting at Dududu near Umkomaas on the Natal south coast. Police say clashes broke out on Saturday, leaving four people dead and a number of huts burned. Police say the deaths were in retaliation for the killing of four people from one of the factions just before Christmas. A man was arrested yesterday and will be charged with public violence.

Information Bureau Issues 7 Jan Unrest Report

MB081042 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1023 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 8, SAPA — Here follows the unrest situation report for the period 0001 to midnight yesterday (January 7) issued by the Bureau for Information in Pretoria.

Isolated incidents of stoning and petrol bomb attacks as well as two shooting incidents during which no-one was injured, were the only unrest-related incidents reported during the abovementioned 24-hour period.

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB080720 [Editorial report]

THE CITIZEN Discredits PFP Election Opposition

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 7 January says in its page 6 editorial that the PFP is eagerly seeking an alliance with the New Republic Party (NRP) but "to achieve this, it must turn the stodgy NRP, which in the main has a conservative approach, into an enlightened force, in heart and soul similar to the PFP. This doesn't wash." "Diehard NRP supporters are by no means all 'enlightened', and many, in fact, will prefer to vote for the NP than for the PFP." *The Citizen* believes that "far from demonstrating in the election that it is turbocharged, the PFP will go phut as the Official Opposition."

THE STAR: Government Generates Public Fear

"The suspicion arises that the festive 'onslaught' was not so much by terrorists on the lives and property of innocent South Africans — but by government on their emotions," says Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 7 January in a page 12 editorial. "There are two possible reasons for this. One is that the Government has, quite simply, become power-crazy. It actually wished to generate a climate of fear so that the public would be less inclined to challenge its draconian emergency powers. The other possibility is that the Government has fallen under the spell of professional alarmists. It needs to contaminate the country with its own anxieties to justify its readiness to erode more freedoms, and to obscure its obstinately illogical belief that the best way to protect democracy is to demolish it." "The only way the Government can now remove suspicion of its motives is to produce public proof in the courtrooms of the land of the evil plans it has thwarted."

BUSINESS DAY Urges Labor To Oppose NP

Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 7 January says in a page 4 editorial that "the principal mystery of the squabble between Labour Party leader Allan Hendrickse and President Botha is why Hendrickse puts up with it. There is no discernible need for the Labour Party to continue for another day in its role of lackey to the National Party." "If Hendrickse's presence in Cabinet cannot free his people from the law that has been the greatest cause of their suffering — the Group Areas Act — nor even win for the man himself the right to swim in the sea where he pleases, then it is hard to imagine why he continues to taint his political record." "Botha is, we are told, ready to force Hendrickse into an election if he does not cease his 'embarrassing' public opposition to the mighty President. Hendrickse should accept the challenge, resign from Cabinet, and get ready to fight an election as leader of an opposing House of Representatives."

Black Majority Opposes Sanctions

On the same page Patrick Bulger writes about an article by social scientist Professor Lawrence Schlemmer entitled "The Sanctions Surveys: In Search of Ordinary Black Opinion." "Comparing 11 major surveys conducted in the past 30 months, Schlemmer remains adamant that sanctions will not only be harmful in the long-term, but opposed by this country's majority." "The issue is complicated by 'three propositions about the contemporary position of black people in South African society.' The first is a complete rejection of apartheid and welcoming of pressure on government. The second is that rank-and-file blacks would oppose measures that would increase their economic burdens, and the third is that blacks would most likely oppose measures that would decrease jobs in the modern sector."

CAPE TIMES on Cost of Living

"The much vaunted South African way of life is, to put it mildly, not what it used to be," says a page 6 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 6 January. "Private enterprise is functioning almost in spite of a government which has been forced to resort to initiative-sapping levels of taxation to finance costly, counter-productive efforts to restrain seething unrest in the townships. It all adds up to an economy that does not work, with all the widespread suffering and hardship that implies." But, "in the sad reality of our economic plight there is hope; a hope that must stem from recognition that we cannot afford our present path, even if we wanted to."

SOWETAN Criticizes Hendrickse's 'Defiant' Swim

A page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 7 January comments on Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse's "defiant swim" on a whites only beach, saying: "Such public stunts have media appeal but most blacks cannot forget how the rev Hendrickse and his colleagues in the House of Representatives left us in the lurch by working within the system. He might fool the world. Not us. We know the likes of the Rev Hendrickse. We know the weathervane mentality which follows the mood of the times to position their commitment, or lack of it." "It is only when people like the Rev Hendrickse — and there are other well known men who will vociferously attack the Government while being part of it and enjoying its protection — throw down the guantlet by walking out of these jobs that they will gain our support."

DIE TRANSVALER: Hope in Political Similarities

Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 6 January says in a page 18 editorial that the announcement by the state president, P.W. Botha, of forthcoming elections has led to immediate talk of regroupings and alliances in the ranks of the opposition. "So there are negotiations to the left and to the right of the government with the objective of ousting the NP in the elections." However, *Die Transvaler* expresses the hope that the elections "will lead to greater consolidation of political views — however fierce the battle may be. Already our power is impeded by division where there ought not to be division, simply because differences are emphasized and the similarities ignored. Eventually the political diffrences must be measured in terms of moderation as against radicalism."

BEELD on 'Sacrosant' U.S. Attitude

"When countries have no friendship between them it is normally in no one's interests," says a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 7 January. "Therefore neither America nor South Africa will benefit from the growing breach between them." "There are indeed few South Africans who do not wish for the removal of the last vestiges of apartheid. But even the most patient of people become irked by the sacrosanct American attitude that it knows best what the solution for South Africa is — and wants to play an 'effective role' from inisde its glass house."

REPUBLIKEIN Criticial of Labor Challenge

A page 4 editorial in Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 6 January says that the fact that a colored man swims in a whites' only area and it becomes major news, indicates that "there is room for more reform." However, Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse's challenge of the present system is "no less tragic. Hendrickse knows that things are changing. He knows that it is a question of time before institutionalized apartheid will be buried. He also knows that his party's participation in the political process of SA contributed enormously to the change over from one system to another. Why the sudden confrontation politics which will lead to polarization politics?" "The solution lies in less politics and more compassion from all sides."